

TREE PLANTING: Her Royal Highness Princess Alia participated in tree planting ceremony in Swedish organized by Amman's Education Department to mark Arbor Day (see photo). In Amman, officials and citizens participated together in planting forest and fruit trees in various parts of the governorate. Zargo governorate decided to celebrate the occasion on Jan. 25.

At Al 'Alok in Bizeen, where about 80,000 trees will be planted. The agriculture department director in the governorate said the department is planning to plant trees on the sides of the 30-kilometer long motorway road and will distribute seedlings to schools, societies and clubs so that they contribute in greening the surrounding areas.

Sayeh urges UNRWA to maintain all services

AMMAN (J.T.) — A reported decision by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) to reduce its services to Palestinian refugees drew a strong reaction from Palestinian National Council (PNC) Speaker Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh Tuesday. He urged Arab and Muslim countries to take action and prevent such measures.

A statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that Sayeh expressed his solidarity with the representatives of the Palestinian people residing in Jordan and voiced his deep regret over UNRWA's attempt to reduce services to the refugees, which, he said, could be a first step towards ending services altogether.

Sayeh made the statement after the representatives of refugees in Jordan sent a memorandum to the UNRWA commissioner general in Vienna protesting against the agency's intended action.

"I do hope that the news about UNRWA's intentions is not true because any reduction will have serious consequences on the allowances given to infants and pregnant women who need food supplies most," Sayeh said.

He appealed to the world com-



Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh

munity to shoulder its responsibility since, he said, it is the international community that contributed to the creation of the problem because it had been condoning Israel's illegal practices designed to prevent any peace settlement in the Middle East.

Sayeh appealed to various Arab and Islamic countries to intervene with UNRWA and stop the intended measures, which he

described as detrimental to the refugees' interests.

The protest against UNRWA's measures coincided with the opening in Tunis of a six-day meeting to discuss UNRWA's operations, developments in the Palestine conflict, and Israel's practices in the occupied territories.

Contributions by various nations to UNRWA will be discussed in detail.

The United States cut its contribution from \$67 million in 1988 to \$61 million in 1989 and \$50 million this year, citing the need to resettle refugees elsewhere in the world.

UNRWA has been in the practice of launching world-wide campaigns on an annual basis to raise sufficient funds to finance its operations.

Sawt Al Shaab Arabic daily quoted UNRWA officials Tuesday as saying that there were no plans to reduce any services to the refugees in Jordan. The paper quoted officials as saying that it only plans to incorporate some of the services to save on cost of operations. This merger, they said, is deemed necessary in view of the difficulties the agency was facing at this time in view of dwindling resources.

Association urges ministry to help find work for geologists

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan Geologists Association (JGA) urged the Ministry of Labour to try to find work for unemployed geologists through contacts with other Arab countries, the association's president, George Haddadin, said Tuesday.

The JGA also expressed hope

that the Ministry of Labour would approach local private business dealing with stone and lime quarries and similar industries to employ Jordanian geologists in their operations. Haddadin said after a meeting with Minister of Labour Qasem Obeidat, with whom he discussed this question and general affairs of concern to

the association.

Discussion also dwelt on prospects of involving Jordanian geologists in Jordan's future mining schemes. The meeting was attended by the JGA board members, who presented their views to the minister on all these questions.

Cairo invites House to send a delegation

AMMAN (Petra) — Egypt has extended an invitation to the Lower House of Parliament to send a delegation to Egypt for talks on parliamentary cooperation between Jordan and Egypt.

The invitation was conveyed to House Speaker Suleiman Arar at a meeting in his office with Egyptian Ambassador to Jordan Mahab Mugbel who said that the visit would further boost bilateral cooperation.

Mugbel said the invitation was extended to Arar to visit Cairo at the head of a delegation from his Egyptian counterpart Rifaat Ma-joub.

The Financial Committee of the Upper House of Parliament convened Tuesday and approved three draft laws on the Amman Financial Market.

Sawt Al Shaab Arabic daily reported in its evening issue that several economists including Sami Qammo, former director of the General Budget Department, took part in the committee's session.

Qammo said that there was urgent need to reexamine the government's 1990 public expenditure allocations and the cost of services to be offered by the central government to municipa-

lities. Qammo said that between 1980 and 1989 Jordan spent a total of JD 8.16 billion as follows:

Current and recurrent expenditure — JD 3.06 billion; Armed Forces — JD 1.77 billion; capital expenditure JD 3 billion.

These, he said, were covered by local revenues of JD 4.28 billion, internal and external loans of JD 1.59 billion, and financial aid of JD 1.79 billion.

Qammo also said that during this period a total of JD 0.505 billion were drawn from the reserves of the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ).

West German media urged to be accurate, balanced on Arab issues

AMMAN (J.T.) — A round-table conference of Arab news agencies and the information media of West Germany held its second session Tuesday with the main focus on the media coverage of Arab developments in West Germany.

A working paper presented by the chief editor of Egypt's state-run Middle East News Agency (MENA), Mohammad Habib, said that the Egyptian media give more than average Arab media coverage for external news, parti-

cularly in newspapers and magazines. The Egyptian press, he said, regularly carries features and commentaries on foreign affairs on all levels, and cited West German issues as an example.

Media links between Germany and the Arab World were initiated in 1938 in line with developing relations between the two sides, he said.

Samira Ajeli from the Libyan JANA news agency presented a working paper on the coverage of

Arab issues and developments in the West German media and asserted that Western European media in general tend to highlight negative aspects of the Arab World and lack credibility.

The representative of the Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) urged the West German media to provide accurate and balanced coverage of Arab developments and cited as an example the ongoing controversy over Turkey's one-month cut-off of Euphrates River flow to Syria.

Royal decree approves martial law amendments

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Royal Decree was issued Tuesday approving amendments to the martial law regulations for 1990. The amendments cancel the jurisdiction of military courts on issues related to crimes, possession of firearms, communism, counterfeit currency, murder and violation of the defence law and firing arms in weddings.

The Council of Ministers last month announced the amend-

ment in response to requests by Lower House of Parliament members calling for cancellation of martial law altogether.

Another Royal Decree issued Tuesday approved of a land transport agreement between Jordan and Iraq. The agreement, which provides for facilities for transport of goods and passengers, aims at further developing bilateral cooperation in land transport fields.

Jewish immigration to Palestine rings alarms

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian Parliament should spearhead efforts worldwide to stem the flow of Jews from the Soviet Union and Eastern European countries to occupied Palestinian land; and can dispatch envoys and delegations to the Eastern bloc to support the Arab cause, former foreign minister and Lower House of Parliament member Taber Al Masri said Tuesday.

"The continued migration of Jews to Israel constitutes a grave danger to the Arab Nation in general and the Palestinians in particular and therefore Arab governments must join hands and do all they can to contain such migration," Masri said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

"The new regimes in Eastern Europe will no doubt listen to the Arab and Jordanian envoys, but a concerted effort is needed by all concerned parties if the Arab bid is to achieve success at the official level," Masri added.

Masri, who chairs the Lower House of Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee, said that "confronting the emigration danger is the Arab Nation's responsibility since an increase in the manpower in Israel will increase its temptation to launch further acts of aggression on the Arab countries to settle the new-

comers." Masri said the Arab countries should also work on two other fronts: Provide material and moral support for the Palestinian intifada and exercise pressure on the United States to change its position on the conflict.

According to Ghazi Al Saadi, a Jordanian journalist and a specialist in Israeli affairs, the direct air route between Moscow and Israel, which was recently inaugurated, is bound to increase the number of Jewish immigrants.

Saadi said that between 1971 and 1985, 159,904 Jews came to Israel from the Soviet Union. In 1989 alone, a total of 71,196 Jews arrived to settle in the occupied Arab lands from the Soviet Union, up from a mere 18,965 in 1988, he added.

He said a total of 500 Jews came during November 1989 alone, and 100 others came on the first direct flight which launched the new Moscow-Tel Aviv route.

Commenting on the situation, Palestine National Council (PNC) Speaker Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh said that the arrival of thousands of Jewish immigrants will increase the sufferings of the Palestinian people because Israel will absorb the newcomers at their expense.

Switzerland raises aid to university

AMMAN (J.T.) — Switzerland has decided to raise its contribution to the Centre for Phonetics Research at the University of Jordan from 300,000 Swiss francs to 500,000 francs, according to Swiss Ambassador to Jordan Dino Scollari.

He made the announcement during a visit to the University of Jordan where he inspected the centre's facilities and met with officials including university President Mahmoud Al Samra.

Samra expressed Jordan's appreciation for the assistance, which, he said, would boost the centre's services to the Jordanian and Arab public.

The centre was opened at the

University of Jordan in January 1988 to help teach Arabic to Jordanian children and to non-native speakers, and to help rehabilitate people with speech problems.

Switzerland is supplying the equipment and has also sent a team of specialists to help instruct local staff on the centre's management and services.

Equipment installed at the centre included a computer to help carry out sound analysis and a laryngograph which helps monitor the performance of vocal cords in voiced sounds, study psycho-linguistics and the effect of communication disorders on children's speech.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

CONDOLENCES: His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday visited the residence of Army Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb to convey condolences on the death of his brother Moussa Abu Taleb (Petra).

ABC PRESIDENT ENDS VISIT: Arab Banking Corporation (ABC) Executive President Abdullah Sindi wound up a visit to Jordan Tuesday and left for Bahrain. During the visit to Jordan, Sindi paved the ground for the opening of an ABC bank with a JD 10 million capital (J.T.).

EUPHRATES EXPLANATION: Two senior officials from Turkey are currently visiting Amman to clarify and explain the decision to cut the waters of the Euphrates from Jan. 13, 1990 for a period of one month to fill the now completed Ataturk Dam in Turkey. The two officials are the director general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for Economic Relations with the Middle East countries, Necati Vitan, and the assistant director general of Turkish State Hydraulic Works, Ozden Bilen (J.T.).

SUPPLY DIRECTORS MEET: Directors of the supply departments in Jordan held a meeting Tuesday at the Ministry of Supply. Participants in the meeting discussed the situation of essential supplies in the Kingdom and administrative matters. Minister of Supply Nabil Abul Huda, who chaired the meeting, emphasised the ministry's interest in satisfying the citizen's needs and called the group to do their best in providing supplies in reasonable prices (Petra).

NEW BOOK: "Jerusalem in History," a new book written by nine scholars and edited by Dr. Kamil Asali, has been recently published in England. The book traces the history of the city for the last 5,000 years. Scholars from the U.S., Canada, Britain, Holland, Germany, Iraq and Jordan wrote different chapters of the book. According to historian Albert Hourani: "This is a substantial contribution to our knowledge of the history of Jerusalem based on a wide variety of sources. The chapters summarise the present state of scholarship, and some at least of them break new ground." (J.T.).

HAMDAN HONOURED: Yarmouk University held a ceremony Tuesday to honour Dr. Mohammad Hamdan, the university's former president who was appointed minister of education and higher education in the government of Prime Minister Mudar Badran. Hamdan was presented with the university's shield by his successor to the post Dr. Ali Mahafza (Petra).

MINISTRY GIVES BOOKS TO SWEDEN: Ministry of Culture presented a collection of 54 books as well as children's magazines published in Jordan to the Swedish embassy in Amman. A ministry spokesman said that the gift was aimed at encouraging exchange of books and other publications with other countries (Petra).

MEDICINE CONSIGNMENT: A Syrian team was expected in Amman Tuesday to negotiate the purchase of a consignment of Jordanian medicine, according to a report in Sawt Al Shaab daily. The paper said in the past year Jordan sold \$60 million worth of pharmaceutical products to Syria. It said that Syria was paying by barter, supplying Jordan with cereals and cooking oil.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Programmes to be carried out by the Ministry of Social Development and its affiliated centres during 1990 were reviewed at a meeting held Monday under the chairmanship of Minister of Social Development Abdul Majid Al Shreideh. Matters related to training of ministry officials were also reviewed at the meeting (Petra).

HANDICRAFTS EXHIBITION: A four-day exhibition of handicrafts was opened at the Professional Association Complex in Amman Monday. On display are samples of artificial flowers, dresses, and ceramics by female trainees at the Vocational Training Corporation's centres.

STANDARD OF DOCTORS: The Continued Medical Education Committee at the Karak Health Department has prepared a plan designed to promote the standard of doctors working at medical centres in the governorate by attending lectures during the next two months. This plan is also intended to introduce doctors to means to tackle various cases, to introduce them to achievements in medicine and to promote cooperation among various sectors working in this field (Petra).

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITION

* An exhibition entitled "They chose 36 poets" at the French Cultural Centre.

LECTURE

* A lecture, in French, on Andre Malraux by Noel Favreliere to mark General de Gaulle's centennial birthday anniversary at the French Cultural Centre — 6:30 p.m.

Jordan, Italy cooperate in restoration

AMMAN (J.T.) — Department of Antiquities Director Ghazi Bishah and Italian Ambassador to Jordan Francesco de Curten Tuesday discussed cooperation in restoring Jordan's archaeological sites.

They discussed in particular the restoration of mosaics in the Madaba area and the resumption of restoration programmes in the Greco-Roman city of Jerash.

Last week, two Italian experts in mosaics restoration visited Jordan and studied areas that require further attention.

Their visit has paved the way for the arrival here of three specialists in this field which will begin first at the Greek Orthodox Church in Madaba, a statement said following Tuesday's meeting.

The statement also said that another team would soon arrive here to resume work on the restoration of Jerash archaeological sites.

Jordan's welfare lottery — quick money for some but aids a cause

By Nur Sati
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Thousands of people throughout Jordan eagerly rush to buy the fortnightly lottery tickets hoping that by some thread of luck, they will win the first prize — or any prize for that matter. Every third and eighteenth of the month, they hopefully flip through the newspapers first thing in the morning to either settle for what was expected or to find themselves lucky. And the cycle goes on.

This trend began in 1973 under the umbrella of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS). For a modest sum of 250 fils one could

buy a lottery ticket while the first prize was then a handsome sum of JD 2,500.

Abdallah Khatib, director of GUVS, explains that when the project began an agent was contracted to sell the tickets at a certain place. But it was soon discovered that there was a need for a different approach to sell more tickets and therefore to gain more income. Thus an "open system" was devised whereby anyone could do the selling.

"In 1973, we used to sell 30,000 tickets each draw (every two weeks). We are now able to sell 80,000 tickets, with about 600 people selling them," Khatib told the Jordan Times. The price of a ticket has

increased to JD 2. So has the first prize, to JD 25,000. At the year's end, GUVS gives the lucky one JD 60,000.

According to Khatib, the total intake of the lottery was JD 1.7 million. Forty per cent of the amount was given away in prizes and 20 per cent was given as commission to agents. GUVS allocated the remaining 40 per cent to miscellaneous voluntary societies in both the East and West Banks. This includes rehabilitation centres, medical centres as well as child care centres. In addition, GUVS also provides for social development centres, libraries and adoption centres and for furnishing kindergartens.

GUVS is involved in a number of projects to help such voluntary societies but, "the project that achieved the most is the lottery. It is our main source of income and both the buyers and beneficiaries benefit," Khatib says.

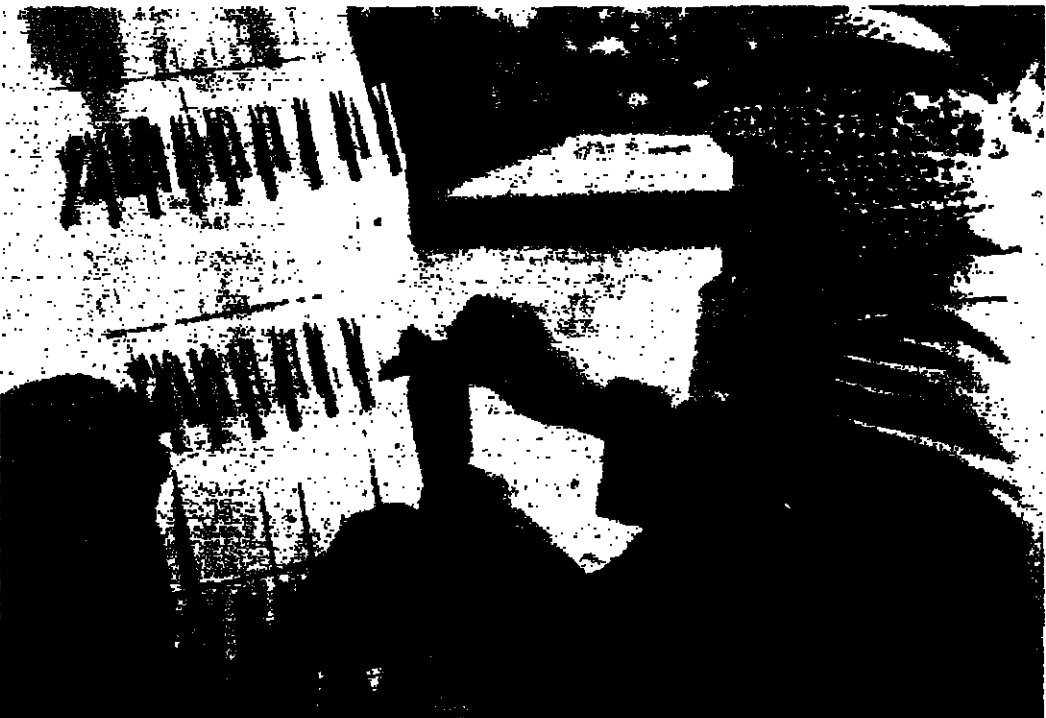
He stressed that the role of GUVS is that of a planner, coordinator, manager, trainer and researcher. Since its establishment in 1958, GUVS has incorporated representatives of voluntary societies spread through the Kingdom. "Now, we have 626 voluntary societies within GUVS covering a large number of the needs to the local community," Khatib said.

In 1989, through the many projects GUVS involved itself, one quarter of a million people in Jordan were benefitted in one way or another, according to Khatib.

Although the number of beneficiaries is large, the number of the needy, poor and unfortunate are even larger. Khatib agrees that "we are doing very well through our projects, but, looking at the amount of people in need of GUVS, we cannot help but feel helpless."

But, Khatib says, the year 1990 will witness the establishment of the first phase of a cancer centre at the University of Jordan. It includes radiotherapy facilities and an outpatient clinic. The centre will cost about JD 2.7 million in addition to another \$6 million for equipment. "The problem of cancer has become a major worldwide issue and is desperately needed in our country due to a wide prevalence of the disease," Khatib said.

Currently under develop-



Selling lottery tickets offers means of livelihood for young and old people (photos by Youssef Al 'Alban)

ment are 10 centres for the mentally retarded throughout Jordan so that people living in remote areas would also benefit. Khatib says that GUVS is also helping develop income-generating projects for local communities.

A study will be taking place aiming to provide the handicapped persons with about 500 jobs. Khatib said small shops were being built by the govern-

ment, "thus granting the handicapped a chance to contribute to society."

GUVS has come a long way since it was first established and now caters its services to a wide variety of helpless people, ranging from the smallest child to the senior citizens of Jordan. Looking into GUVS future, Khatib is optimistic that the number of beneficiaries will increase.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1972

Chairman of the Board of Directors:

MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

DR. WALEED M. SADI

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4, 684311, 684366

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Difficult time for Gorbachev

AT the end of his recent visit to Lithuania, Mikhail Gorbachev said the most stupendous and daring thing yet in his career when he declared that he was willing to entertain multi-party system of government for the Soviet Union. The Soviet leader might have said these words in desperation after having failed to convince the Lithuanian leaders to go back on their decision to break away from Moscow. This is not to mention that the Soviet president is beleaguered by many challenges and dangers the least of which are not only the widening turbulence in the south and west of the country. The big question remains whether Gorbachev can salvage the situation for himself and his perestroika and glasnost after all the bold concessions that he has been making within and outside his country. Having the Pandora box opened and the genie out of the jar, the Soviet leader seems to have reached the point of no return. What is even more ominous is the fact that the events unfolding in the Soviet Union and in Eastern Europe have strained his capacity to cope with them.

Now there is a growing fear that the very survival of Gorbachev is at stake. What dangers to his own career loom in the horizon or worse still in the dark is something that the international community must be most concerned about. And what words of advice can all governments truly concerned about the continuing success of Gorbachev's imaginative reforms offer to Moscow at this very critical juncture must be uppermost on the minds of leaders everywhere.

To be sure one hopes that the Soviet leader perseveres with his new ideas. The fact that he is beginning to reflect on introducing pluralism to the Soviet system of government is most encouraging. But will he be able to continue this road of openness and still deal effectively and realistically with the mounting wave of nationalism in and around the southern and western parts of the Soviet Union is something else. Will Moscow ever go to the extent of viewing its long range interest as being better served without maintaining a mosaic country composed of so many nationalities that have very little in common? These are very difficult questions and the answers to them are even harder. Nevertheless it would be presumptuous on the part of the concerned international community to preempt the thinking of Moscow on how best to deal with the new situation in the Soviet Union. And as long as the Soviet Union has chosen the democratic way to address its contemporary conflicts and challenges, there will always be hope that the answers to all such issues could be just around the corner.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Tuesday commended the leadership of Iraq, Egypt, North Yemen and Jordan which have worked hard over the past year to implement the principles and goals of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) created last February in Baghdad. The paper said the leadership succeeded in the first year of the ACC life to carry out considerable work, leading towards integration among the countries through meetings held at the ministerial and committee levels. The paper referred to the higher ministerial committee meeting grouping the heads of government which is being convened now in Baghdad, and said that it will review past year's work within the ACC group and pave the way for an ACC summit in Amman next month. The various agreements and discussions that aimed to boosting cooperation among the four countries and the different plans for future action are expected to be summed up at the Baghdad meeting which will be considered as a session for evaluation and assessment of the past year's achievements. The paper paid tribute to the leaders of the four ACC nations for creating the very positive atmosphere that enabled the ACC's various agencies to forge ahead with fruitful work and attain success.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily Tuesday criticizes political factions in Lebanon which, he says, continue to place obstacles in the path of implementing the Arab League mediation mission and the Tef Resolution passed by the Lebanese parliament. Abdul Rahman Omar draws attention to the fact that Michel Aoun and his group are living in the past in the period of the Phoenicians and totally disregarding the developments around Lebanon and ignoring the Arab World in which Lebanon is situated. He says that as the three-member Arab League mediation committee Tuesday resumes its mission to bring peace to the embattled nation, Aoun and his group continue to oppose the unanimous agreement of the Lebanese parliament and the will of the Arab Nation. What is more, Israel continues to occupy parts of southern Lebanon and to cause tension and conflicts within Lebanon itself, the writer notes. He says that like Syria, Jordan, Egypt and Lebanon being country bordering on Israel, it has been affected by the Zionist aggression, but due to the lack of cohesion among its various groups, if faced a civil war and continues to face a gloomy future due to the obstinacy of extremist factional leaders.

Al Dastour daily commented Tuesday on Soviet Jewish emigration to the occupied Arab territories, and said that the Israeli leaders faced with the influx of great numbers of Jews are now planning to expand their aggression and occupation plans in the Arab region. The paper said that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has been lately talking about creating a greater Israel to absorb the immigrants from the Soviet Union, and about holding to the occupied Arab lands where the first newcomers will be settled. This fact, the paper said, should open the eyes of the Arab leaders who should take note of this looming danger and plan a counter-action. The nearly one million new immigrants could prompt Israel to make out of them a nucleus for a new wave of expansion and a new aggression on the Arabs, said the paper. The Arab leaders, the paper continued, should now approach the Soviet Union and draw its attention to the negative consequences of the such migration which can never help resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Israel's strategic value: will it lessen with Soviet-U.S. thaw?

By Nicholas B. Tatro
The Associated Press

TEL AVIV — As Soviet-American tensions ease, Israel's value as a strategic ally is being questioned, and Israeli officials are concerned this could lead to cuts in military aid.

Mark Heller, a senior analyst at Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies, said the Soviets were likely to be less supportive of radical Arab governments and no longer viewed as a source of instability.

"As the perceived Soviet threat to the Middle East declines, so may the strategic value of Israel in the eyes of American policymakers," he said.

A major argument in providing Israel with \$1.8 billion a year in military aid has been its value as a strategic ally, one that could preposition equipment, supply the U.S. Sixth Fleet and be counted on in a showdown.

"There is no longer a common adversary," said Heller, suggesting aid cuts could ultimately result.

More conservative analysts dis-

agree. They suggest Israel could become an even greater asset if the United States is forced to close down bases in Europe but wants to retain the ability to defend its interests against governments like Libya and the Islamic republic in Iran.

"Expansionist powers in the region could threaten the free flow of oil and maritime trade routes. These are constant American interests that will have to be defended even if no Soviet threat is perceived," said Dore Gold, also of the Jaffee Centre.

One sign of continuing U.S. reliance came last week when U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense, Paul Wolfowitz expressed interest in having access to bases in Israel, according to sources who demanded they not be identified.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who is in Washington this week for talks with U.S. officials on future military aid, said one basic element has changed. He said the superpowers no longer fear a Middle East war would grow into a U.S.-Soviet confrontation as happened during

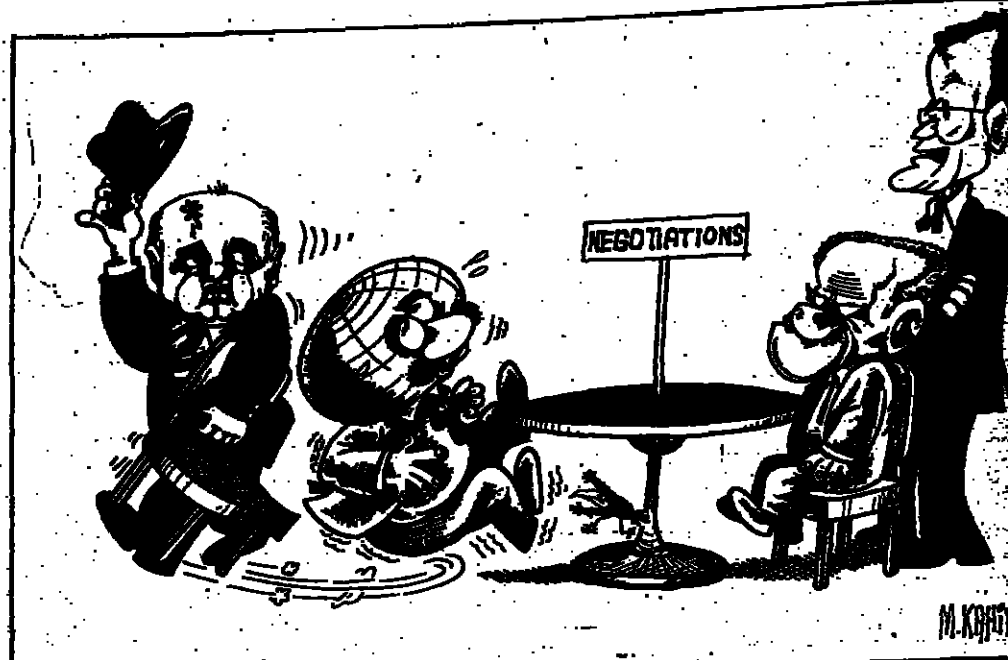
the 1973 Mideast war.

The Soviet Union, the main military supplier to Arab states, threatened to introduce troops to bolster the Arab side during the 1973 war, and then U.S. President Richard Nixon put American troops on nuclear alert.

"In the past, many books were written that tried to describe the Middle East as the focal point from which the third world war would start. This fear is over," Rabin said in a recent speech to a conference of visiting Jewish journalists.

Less worried about a confrontation and tied up with their own arms negotiations, Rabin said the Soviets and Americans were not as eager to tackle intractable regional conflicts like the Arab-Israeli dispute.

"Whether one or the other of the superpowers will realize that the gap between the positions of the two sides is too wide, they tell the two parties 'go to hell. You want to quarrel. You want to use violence. Do it until one of you, or both of you, will become tired.'"



Rabin has reportedly set up a task force to study the impact of U.S. defence cuts on Israel.

An aide to Finance Minister Shimon Peres said in the past two years the real value of aid to Israel declined about 5 per cent because of inflation.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, he suggested the thaw in cold war attitudes may be a

factor in Washington's decision not to compensate Israel for the loss.

"I will not tell you I don't foresee any new thinking in the United States," said the official, who argued that Israel could avoid any threatened aid cuts by moving quickly to get involved in the peace process.

U.S. Sen. Pete Wilson of California, the senior Republican on

the Senate Armed Forces Committee, told reporters during his visit here last week that Israel should not be cut because of "premature euphoria" over changes in the Soviet bloc.

"I think there are a number of people who are eagerly anticipating a peace dividend that may not be as large as they think," he said.

In troubled East Europe, Czechoslovakia remains optimistic

By Susan Greenberg
Reuters

PRAGUE — "I keep thinking I'll wake up and it will all be a dream. I walk past the posters of Havel and ask my daughter to pinch my arm, to tell me it's true."

Comments such as this one from Yankulka, a teacher, are common in Prague. But of all the East bloc countries caught up in the whirl of radical change, Czechoslovakia appears to show the most confidence.

Romania is reeling from a wave of violence, East Germany worries that real change will still be snatched away and Poland and Hungary face deep economic crisis.

But the very caution which helped keep Czechoslovakia one of the most conservative Communist states in the East bloc now stands it in good stead as a basis for solid change. People are aware of the problems ahead but

their traditional pessimism has given way to real hope.

There are several factors behind this. There is a strong feeling of pride that people found their own strength and brought about real changes at the top, not just "the same people saying different things."

In Vaclav Havel, the leading ex-dissident and playwright, the country has a unique national figurehead in the tradition of the republic's founding father, Tomas Masaryk.

His election on December 29 represented a reversal of fortunes, with the ex-prisoner replacing his jailer. He is also someone whom people trust as uninterested in personal gain or power. Havel has said he wants to quit after elections planned for June, but his supporters may not let him.

The powerful Civic Forum opposition movement, which led the fight to topple the Communist party from power in November

and December, is a focus for the country's non-partisan impulse.

This impulse is reflected by the lack of vindictiveness being shown towards former Communist leaders and the concern for legality among those pursuing their past crimes, such as chief prosecutor Pavel Sitar.

Visitors have noticed the mood of positive calm. A visiting U.S. congressman, Tom Lantos, told journalists last week: "I am impressed with the quality of the people... their attitude is going to help bring the country back."

There are, of course, real problems.

"The new government is going to have to take some unpopular decisions which may lead to unemployment and rising prices," said a Western diplomat. "People have had a lot of social guarantees and may not be willing to give them all up for the risks of the free market."

The controversy over a possible apology to the Sudeten Ger-

mans expelled after World War II also points to problems of facing up to the past.

"If we can't face responsibility for that, we won't be able to face responsibility for our complicity in the last 40 years," said one Czechoslovak.

Civic Forum is powerful but is still unsure how to proceed as a "non-party party." Young people were attracted to the unity of a fight against the Communists but the present idealism will eventually have to give way to normal politics.

National differences loom, with organisations deciding whether to form or reform as federal groups or split up into Czech and Slovak parts. Leading politicians such as Christian ex-dissident Jan Carnogursky, for example, will have to decide whether to be regional or national figures.

There are two Czechs in the population for every Slovak, and as another diplomat noted: "The

equal representation of Slovakia in the national federation could be a real pitfall if it is not well handled." Havel showed in his trip to the Slovak capital Bratislava on Jan. 11 that he is well aware of this.

There is also a possible city-country divide. "In the countryside, a lot of local party bosses still think they are very important," one Western diplomat commented.

There are signs that some country people are frightened by recent events. "Why are you people in Prague changing everything?" one villager complained to a Prague woman.

Havel himself has paid tribute to the "enormous human, moral and spiritual potential" in his countrymen "that slumbered under the enforced mask of apathy." But, he added, "our main enemies today are our own bad traits (such as) indifference to the common good."

There are still plenty of exam-

ples of this indifference, which most people recognise and see as something that will take years to lose. And there are plenty of corrupted people still around running things the way they used to, and security men still making trouble for people they don't like.

On the radio and television, the story of the revolution is told over and over again to reassure people that their world really did turn upside-down after the first big pro-democracy demonstration on November 17.

On a side note that reminds one of the country's past, one man explained why even the most pessimistic person must remain positive.

"I simply couldn't live through another '68," he said, referring to the hopes for democracy briefly raised by the "Prague spring" under Alexander Dubcek, only to be crushed by a Soviet-led Warsaw Pact invasion later that year. "If we lost it all again I would commit suicide."

Revolution exposes excesses of communist elite

By Nicholas Pylthian

VIENNA — East Europeans, unaccustomed to reading about the private lives of their leaders, have been treated to titillating revelations about the peccadilloes and worse of the former Communist elite.

Newspapers more used to massaging the egos of political leaders are reveling in a new found freedom since the popular uprisings that have broken the Communist grip on power in the East bloc.

Readers in Romania last week woke up to a graphic newspaper portrayal of the lifestyle of executed dictator Nicolae Ceausescu's hard-drinking daughter, Zoe.

"When she saw a handsome man she wouldn't let him go until she had hooked him," the independent daily Tineretul Libe (free youth) said.

Zoe, the paper said, would drink her lovers under the table and then kick them out of her room if they were too drunk to respond to her advances.

In Czechoslovakia, the talk was of the high life of visiting Communist dignitaries during the 1970s.

The state news agency CTK reported that deceased and now disgraced Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev strode through game reserves with other top Communists, bagging hares like English aristocrats.

The stories have a familiar ring.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev sowed the seeds of the new openness with his glasnost reforms which allowed the press to dig into the excesses of Stalinist Communism in the Soviet Union.

But floodgates opened with the wave of popular revolt that broke the Communist monopoly on power elsewhere in Eastern Europe, with the exception of Stalinist Albania.

In November, East Germans were reading all about the luxury lifestyle and flashy French limousines of their disgraced leader Erich Honecker.

The state media turned and bit the hands that fed them, disclosing the long-hidden secrets of their erstwhile masters.

Journalists poured over the ruling Communist party's top-security Wanditz compound describing the comfortable cream houses, heated swimming pool

and delicatessen that shielded the leadership from the deprivation outside.

Soon after, the spotlight fell on Bulgaria's ousted leader Todor Zhivkov, whose family enjoyed almost regal status during his 35 years in power.

Zhivkov was pilloried in the press for his 30 residences and his hunting.

"Bulgaria had become a hunting reserve for the president," one commentator said.

Zhivkov's son Vladimir was described as a playboy.

Last month, journalists in Czechoslovakia toured the Communist party's exclusive Praha hotel revealing palatial suites, a luxury sports centre and a cinema where officials could enjoy private screenings of Western films they had banned.

But it is in Romania that interest in the private lives of the Communist elite has reached a new height.

The story of the decline and fall of the Ceausescus, Romania's ruling family, has been fleshed out with lurid details of their lavish lifestyle.

Nicolae Ceausescu and his wife Elena lived in a dream house packed with gold, silver and the country's most prized art treasures while his nation starved.

"I cannot even imagine a billionaire in the West living in such style," said one of those guarding the house.

Elena Ceausescu's private

apartments contained rows of shoes, fur coats and dresses.

The authorities opened up the luxury villa of Ceausescu's son Nicu, said to have been a womaniser and a gambler who squandered a fortune at Las Vegas gambling tables.

Nicu, 36, would travel the country with a coterie of different women and cronies. Restaurants would have to empty when they entered.

At his villa he had two maids to serve him caviar and champagne.

Nicolae and Elena Ceausescu were executed by firing squad on Christmas day, Zoe, in her thirties, and her brothers Nicu and Valentin are in prison awaiting trial. Valentin, the last to be arrested, was shown on TV in handcuffs on Saturday night.

Honecker, 77, is in hospital recovering from an operation to remove a kidney tumour. He is being investigated for abuse of power.

Zhivkov, too, is under investigation for abuse of power and diverting state funds into private bank accounts. He is living in a modest annex of one of his former residences.

Former Czechoslovak leader Gustav Husak, 77, who resigned on December 10, is living quietly in retirement in a villa in Prague.

The future for Eastern Europe's ousted Communist elite is uncertain. But one thing seems sure, revelations about their private life are likely to continue.

In Lithuania, Gorbachev faced protesters—and took them in stride

By Ann Imse
The Associated Press

VILNIUS, U.S.S.R. — President Mikhail Gorbachev faced protesters on his home soil for the first time last week.

And just as significantly, his whole nation watched the faceoff. At every stop on Gorbachev's three-day tour of Lithuania, he encountered people shouting "freedom," and waving placards calling for independence for the tiny Baltic republic. Lithuania was forcibly annexed by the Soviet Union in 1940 after a mere two decades as a sovereign state.

It was obvious even before Gorbachev left Moscow that he had no chance of achieving his assigned task of persuading Lithuanian Communists to reverse their decision to break with the national Soviet party and support independence for Lithuania.

Each night on the national television news, millions of Soviets saw Gorbachev confront the demonstrators with humour or with arguments.

Once carefully selected crowds would have been on hand to cheer the Soviet leader and any open dissenters would have been hustled away by police. On this trip, Gorbachev treated protesters as if they were an ordinary part of political life.

Perhaps from now on, they will be.

It seemed unlikely that Gorbachev, who has demonstrated his extraordinary political acuity in redefining the postwar world,

would set himself up for failure in Lithuania. It appears now he intended to demonstrate that even secessionists — if peaceful — will be fought with reason and logic, not tanks and troops.

His conduct sent a message that the Kremlin is more likely to accommodate the Lithuanian model of political pursuit of independence than the violence that erupted along the Iranian border in Azerbaijan.

Gorbachev said in Lithuania that he had no fear of a multiparty system and promised to put calls for secession to a vote, both part of his strategy for holding the union together through democratic means. Even if the Soviet empire does disintegrate, his approach could provide an orderly, peaceful alternative to chaos.

It was only nine months ago that Soviet troops armed with shovels and gas waded into a singing, dancing crowd of 10,000 pro-independence demonstrators in Tbilisi, Georgia, killing 19 demonstrators. A Soviet parliamentary commission has condemned the decision to use force against the peaceful protesters, but citizens still worry openly.

They also know Gorbachev faces hard-line opponents who are more likely than he is to crack down on those bent on breaking out of the union.

In tiny Lithuania, with just 3.7 million of the Soviet Union's 267 million people, the two-year fight for restoration of independence has been determinedly peaceful.

Hundreds of thousands of people packed the central square and

all the surrounding streets of Vilnius for a candlelit pro-independence demonstration Thursday night on Gorbachev's first day in town. The president steered clear of that rally, but at every stop, he met protesters carrying the yellow, red and green flags of independent Lithuania, or chanting "freedom."

Despite their fervor, the encounters were without exception civil.

At one stop, Gorbachev gazed at the posters calling for freedom and joked, "and you say you are not free."

Local police linked arms in a human chain to keep the crowds from surging forward and overwhelming what Lithuanian officials described as the first Soviet Communist party chief to visit the republic in its 50 years as part of the Soviet Union. But security was not unusually oppressive.

Behind closed doors with Lithuanian officials, according to some of those present, Gorbachev kept hearing the same refrain: Independence.

On the street, where a decade ago billboards trumpeted "half to labour" and praised the Communist party in red neon, downtown Vilnius sported a new theme: "Lithuania without sovereignty is Lithuania without a future."

For Gorbachev and for the rest of his high-powered entourage, including politburo members Vadim Medvedev and Yuri Maslyukov, it was an introduction to dealing with powerful domestic political opponents.

Indian leaders curb security forces in Punjab

By Michael Bettie
Reuters

AMRITSAR, India — The new Indian government, trying to negotiate an end to a bloody Sikh separatist campaign, has told security forces in Punjab to act within the law.

Senior officials in Punjab and New Delhi admitted in interviews that the security forces had abused their power under the previous government during a war that has spanned nearly a decade and cost thousands of lives.

"The violence was met by state violence and as a result Sikh youth has been alienated. Innocent people have been killed," said a cabinet minister who asked

not to be identified.

"You kill one innocent boy and the whole area will be affected," he said. "They all know whether he is a terrorist or not."

Curtailing the security forces is a prime demand of hardline Sikh politicians who won most Punjab parliamentary seats in the November elections that ousted Rajiv Gandhi and his Congress Party.

The Sikh politicians allege the current killings — more than 100 have been reported this year — are the work of vigilante groups set up by the security forces or simple murders by police who report them as encounters with militants.

Amnesty International, the prominent human-rights group, has long asked New Delhi to be

allowed into Punjab to investigate widespread allegations of abuse.

Gandhi rebuffed each request saying the Indian legal system has a competent to deal with any charges. The new administration of Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh is reviewing the question, but has not reached a decision, officials said.

State officials decline comment on specific allegations and say there are no plans to investigate past abuses.

"The policy is not to look into the past. The new stand is to keep within the law," a senior Punjab official said.

Police last year reported more than 2,000 deaths they attributed to the campaign by militants for an independent Sikh homeland

they call Khalistan (land of pure).

Local journalists mistrust the figures. "Half the time we have no idea of what really happened. We have been misled by the police so many times we are truly cynical," said one.

The violence from both sides leaves people scared.

"Everybody knows the vigilantes have not been paid since V.P. (Singh) came to power and everybody knows they have got into the extortion business," said a Sikh businessman in Amritsar.

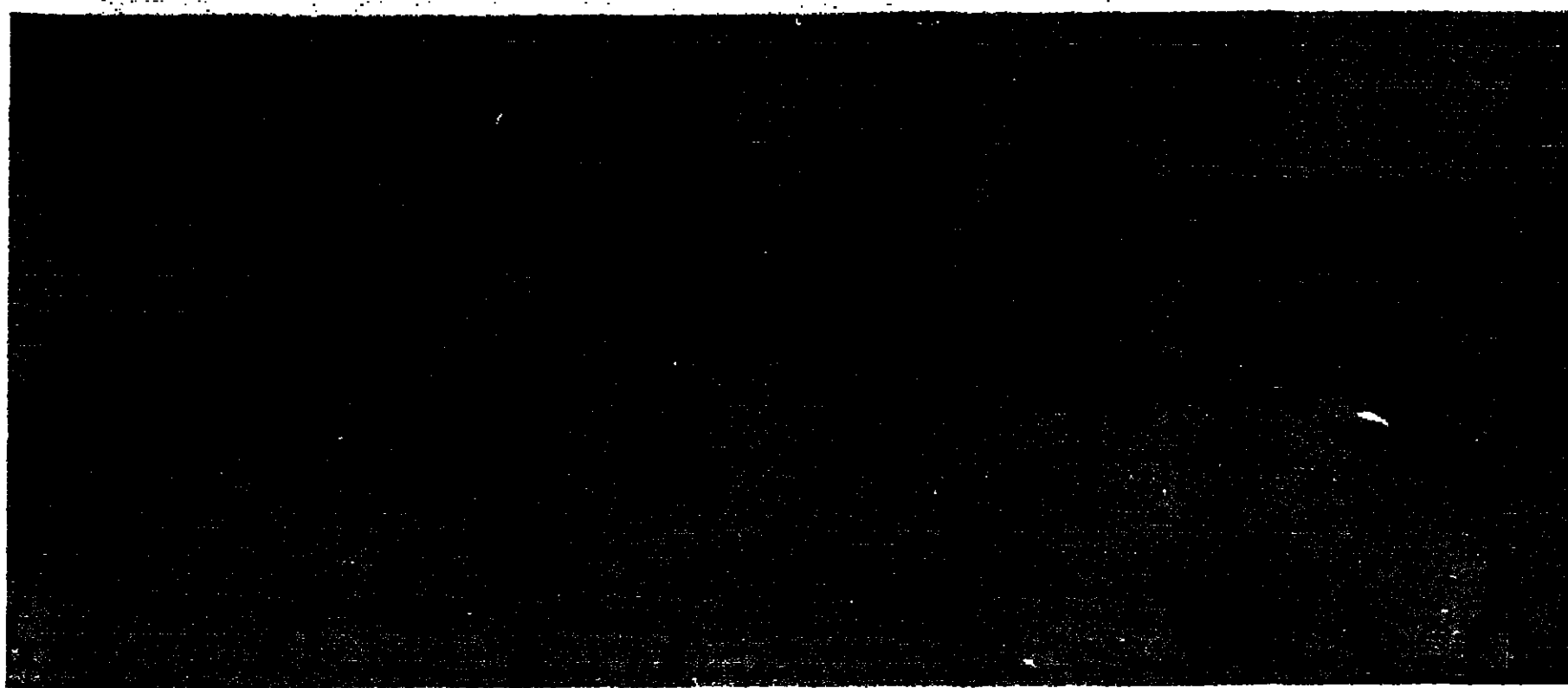
"When you get a letter demanding money on, say, Bhindranagar Tiger Force-headed newspaper, you don't know whether it's come from the boys (militants) or who it's come from. You pay anyway," he said.

Militant kidnappings for ransom are frequent. Journalists say a prominent local figure kidnapped recently was told he had been exploiting people and now it was his turn to be exploited.

They said he paid a 2.1 million rupee (\$120,000) ransom and has then told if one word of this was published his family would be wiped out.

Officials said militants were now turning their money-raising efforts on income-tax inspectors, telling them they had been "stealing" people long enough and now it was their turn to pay.

"Life may look normal enough in Amritsar, but it's not. We're all scared. This used to be a city that was open around the clock. Now it's closed down by 10:30 at night," the businessman said.



The all-women crew of Maiden (above) fight sea and wind and steer their ship (right) to victory.

Maiden's fantastic voyage

By Louise Chann

IT WAS getting towards midnight. The launch had passed Rangitoto, the extinct volcano that rises out of the middle of Auckland Harbour, and was heading north. Perched on a plastic stool, Pat Edwards — mother of British yachtswoman Tracy Edwards — lit another cigarette and gripped the side of the boat with her free hand. She hates the water and her knuckles turned white with tension. "I wasn't let Tracy see me smoking. I've given up really — I used to smoke 80 a day, you see. Of course, she smokes, but it's different for Mum, isn't it? Oh God, I'm so nervous. Listen to me!"

From the upper deck, a voice called down. "Look! I can see them!" And, yes, a tiny speck of red light at the top of the mast was just visible coming steadily through the blackness of sea and sky. The boat raced to meet it and a rousing, fearful chorus of cheers greeted the all-women crew of Maiden as she reached New Zealand at the end of the third leg of the nine-month long, 33,000 mile Whitbread Round The World Race.

They flashed their lights, shouted a greeting, but it wasn't yet over. There were still a few miles to go and Maiden was racing. While the supporters' boats — now numbering half a dozen or so — were lit up and crowded with boozey, sunburnt well-wishers, on Maiden it was dark and the crew were determinedly undistracted until — bang! — they crossed the finish line. Now they could start to celebrate, and tow cases of ice-cold cans of beer were heaved on to the deck, along with the strawberries Pat Edwards had picked for them earlier in the day.

There were a few miles between the finish line and the reception area at Princess Wharf and the sails were pulled down while Maiden gently motored around. By now, it was one o'clock on a Monday morning. There had been huge crowds to welcome the larger, New Zealand-owned maxi several days before, but no one was expecting much at this time of night. Yet the novelty of an all-women crew taking first prize for their division was too much to miss. A crowd of around 10,000 — in a city of just under one million — was gathered on the wharf. Many of them were women, some holding bouquets and gifts for the crew.

Pat Edwards was not the only one in tears. Her daughter — 5ft 2in, dimpled and 27 — had not only skipped Maiden to win two legs in Division D of the Whitbread, but had proved, in the face of enormous scepticism, that women can sail. And, as if anything more was needed, two days later, back on Princess Wharf, she received the trophy for British Yachtsman of the Year, the first time it has been awarded to a woman.

If you're looking for positive stories about women's achievements, Maiden is a beauty. It has all the elements — a determined woman who is told she cannot do something because of her sex, a narrow-minded male establishment and a few true believers who never doubted that justice would be done.

Born in Reading, brought up in South Wales, Tracy Edwards got her first job on a boat when she was 16. She worked for a while in the Caribbean and the Mediterranean, as a cook or crew member, catering to lotus eaters, but soon switched gear to racing. She was sufficiently experienced to sail in the 1985/86 Whitbread, first on Norsk Data GB, then Atlantic Privateer, where she was the cook for three legs, including one they won.

Round. The World Race, who gave her permission to get together an all-women crew for the next Whitbread race, four years later. "Dame Naomi James had sailed single-handed round the world, so I could see no reason why an all-girl crew couldn't do it," he recalled in Auckland.

Edwards announced her intention at the 1986 Southampton Boat Show, but the yachting fraternity gave it a frosty reception. "I wasn't surprised by the adverse reaction," said Williams, "but the adversity they met has made them try harder. I have no doubt that getting over the original in-built prejudice was the biggest problem for Maiden."

Yacht racing is a serious sport. It's about time and money and sometimes even the larger things in life, like death. In many people's minds that was the spectre that hung over the project. They believed that as most women are not as strong as most men, they would not be safe sailing in this most gruelling of races.

To launch a serious contender for the race, Edwards needed a major sponsor to come up with around £80,000. By this time she had gathered around her a small group of people who believed in the project, including former sports journalist Howard Gibbons, now the publicity director for Maiden. By 1987 he was working full time trying to get the idea off the ground — and into the water.

"The sponsorship was the problem. We approached more than 300 companies, mostly British. With a number of them discussions went a long way down the line, but at the end of the day they just wouldn't do it. Only one company actually came right out and said what the others were obviously thinking: that it was too dangerous and that they didn't want their name associated with 12 dead women. We knew we could do it — but we couldn't find anyone to put their faith in us."

As the Whitbread race grew nearer, plans became modified. Edwards had initially intended to build a boat especially for the race, but by March 1988 they decided instead to buy one and refit it themselves. By selling Edwards' house in Hamble, Hampshire, they raised the money to buy a 58 ft racing yacht, formerly Disque D'Or, skippered

by Pierre Fehlmann in the 1981/82 Whitbread.

To rustle up some more publicity, the Duchess of York was invited to name the refitted boat in the summer of 1988. In his hotel room in London, Ali Ghandour, then chairman of Royal Jordanian, happened to catch the news item on TV. And, as is the way with these things, it clicked. Royal Jordanian offered financial support for Maiden's first real race, a 3,800 mile crossing from Cadiz in Spain to Dominican Republic in the Caribbean.

It was the first time an all-woman crew had sailed in such a long off-shore ocean race. They were competing with yachts from all over the world, 11 of them Whitbread entries, more than half of them multi-million-dollar maxis (the 80ft boats in the top division). Edwards' crew left them gasping by finishing in second place overall and, more importantly, first of all the Whitbread entries on corrected time (where weight and length of the boat are taken into consideration).

This clinched the deal with Royal Jordanian as sponsors but didn't silence those who believed that women not only couldn't sail but shouldn't be allowed to sail the Whitbread. Former Guardian journalist Tim Madge, who is writing a book with Edwards about Maiden, remembers, "There was unquestionably a view when this project got started that not only was there no place for women on racing yachts, but that for women to sail in Whitbread could be fatal. This sort of talk undoubtedly affected their progress in getting sponsorship, but it was never true. It was simply men's perception of women and once you cut out the prejudice, you could see that it was possible."

In the three years following her announcement of the project, Edwards had been flooded with applications from women all over the world wanting to join the crew. Several had joined her in Hamble as early as 1987, but it wasn't until a week before departure — Sept. 2, 1989 — that the last member was finalised. "I had to get the combination right. How we got on as a group was vitally important. I sacked one of the crew just before we left because she was causing all sorts of problems. I wouldn't change one

of the crew I have now though." En masse, kitted out in pink shorts and white T-shirts, they're a stunning lot, though not perhaps in the way that some might expect. From Britain, France, Finland, the U.S., Ireland, Holland and New Zealand, they're sun-tanned and well-toned, but not particularly muscular or meaty. "We joke to each other about not putting on weight when we're sailing," said watch captain Dawn Riley. "Or you'll give the public what they expect — a pack of giant lesbians! I don't know why they should think that, anyway. Men sail together and they're not gay — are they?"

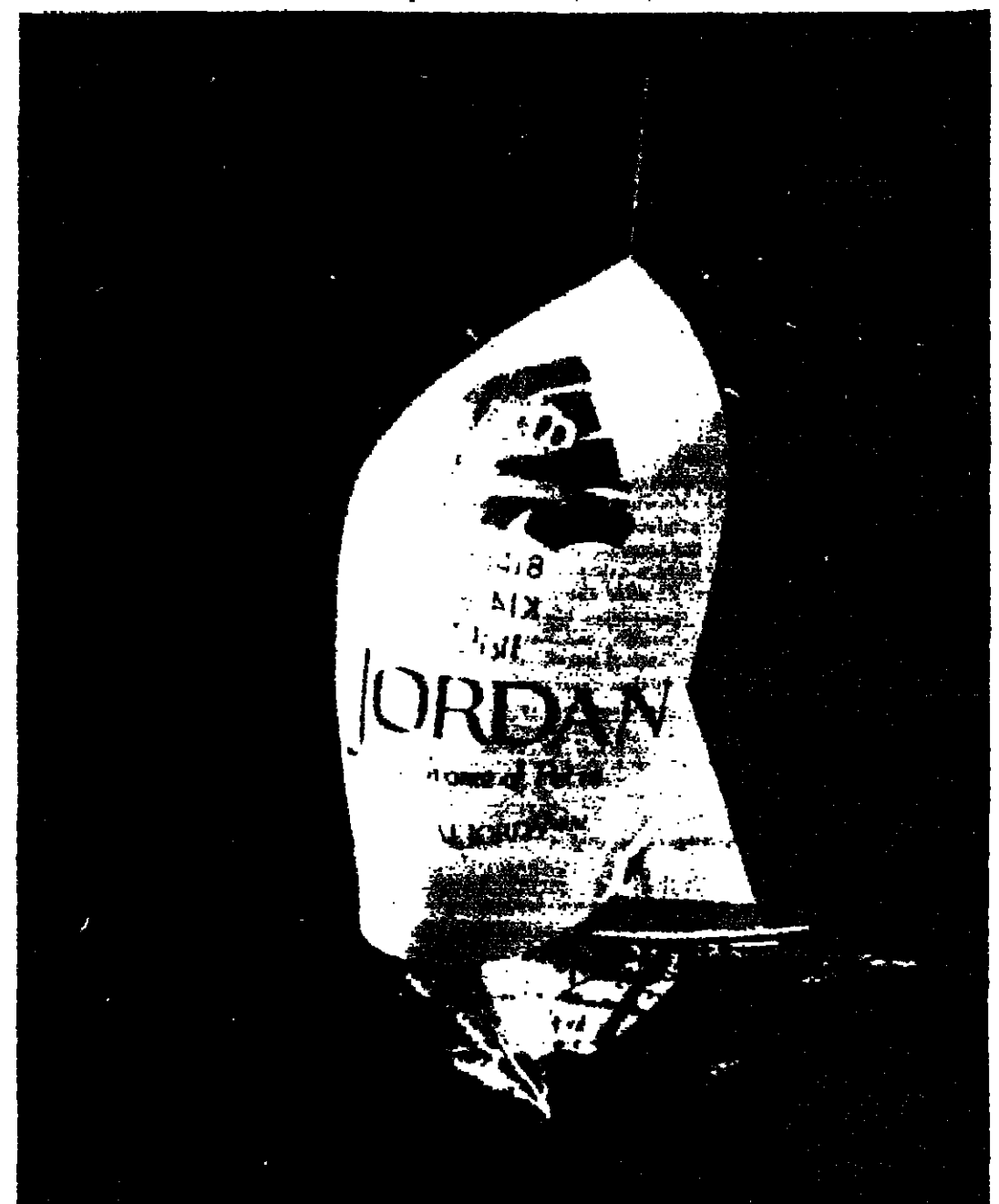
Riley believes the strength factor is overrated in sailing. "I'm probably the strongest one on the boat, and when I sail with guys I'm generally in the stronger half of the crew, but sailing is about much more than simply how big your muscles are."

Riley's been sailing since she was one month old — "My baptism party was held on a boat on Lake St. Clair in Detroit" — and, at 25, is one of the most experienced on board. She's used to sailing with men, but enjoys the camaraderie of an all-women crew. "There are differences — we can sunbathe nude and sail topless when we're off-watch. You wouldn't want to do that

when men were around. And we have an enclosed heads (toilet) while most all-male crews just have a toilet sitting there or go up on deck and use the transom."

Claire Russell, the boat's 26-year-old doctor, reveals even more secrets of the long-distance sailor. "I talk to the doctors on the other boats (there are 23 in the race) and we compare notes. The only real difference is that on Maiden we use a lot of creams because the girls want to look after their skin. And girls tend to keep themselves cleaner, I think, so we don't get problems some of the men get, like fungal infections and abscesses."

The reality of life on a racing yacht is certainly no cruise. With the exception of the skipper and cook, the crew is divided into four sets of two or three, which are rostered in four-hourly watches. When they are off-watch, they can sleep, eat and relax, but never for longer than four hours. "When we were going through the Southern Ocean from Punta del Este in Uruguay to Fremantle in Australia, we were so wrapped up with layer upon layer that it took the girls on watch about half an hour to dress and undress. That left them with only three hours to eat and sleep before they had to be on deck again," said Edwards.



Little things like clean clothes and hair lose their importance when you're sailing among icebergs or surfing at 35 knots. Russell says that Saturdays became the day she changed her knickers, by throwing them over the side. Storage is severely limited and everything on board is subject to weight restriction.

When they're coming into port, though, vanity's permissible, said youngest crew member Jeni Mundy. "Everyone is allocated a jug of fresh water to wash their hair, shave their legs, clean themselves up. It may be macho for the men to come in looking all burnt and wind-blown, but we don't want to look like that."

Russell and Mundy hope that Maiden's success will open up more racing yachts to women, but can also see some logic in single-sex sailing. "The conditions are so cramped and you're living under such strain that you do your best to avoid any problems. And mixing the sexes can lead to difficulties — whether it's sexual attraction or jealousy or competitiveness," says Mundy.

"And being all girls is fun. We've become very close, there's an awful lot of support. If something goes wrong the other girls will sympathise — you know, 'He wasn't worth it, anyway. You deserve better.' It's very sisterly," says Russell.

Boyfriends and husbands can cause problems. "You might fall madly in love with someone, then never see them again because you never end up in the same port at the same time. But that's what this lifestyle is about. It has its negative and positive points," says Mundy who, incidentally, was greeted at Princess Wharf by a love-struck member of Steingard 2, the leader in the maxi division.

Tracy Edwards is engaged to a property developer. He flew to Fremantle at the end of the second leg but, said Edwards, it was not an easy reunion. "It seems to be OK for women to follow the guys about, but not the other way around. He's very proud of me, but he felt uncomfortable. And I found it hard to keep my concentration, preparing for the next leg, so we decided that he shouldn't come on to New Zealand, that it might ruin everything."

And perhaps it's just as well. The pressure's even stronger now they're 16 hours in the lead. "When we won the Punta leg there was definitely a feeling of, 'Well done, but you were lucky.' Now they realise that it wasn't just luck. Now they know we can win, they expect us to win. I must admit, though, we're still stunned by the success. Maybe a tiny piece of us wondered if the millions of people who told us we couldn't do it were right and the 12 of us were wrong. We knew we could get around the course, and we knew we could race, but I guess we weren't at all sure how we'd race against the others. I can guarantee that at the start of the race the other serious contenders in our division (from France, West Germany and Belgium) were racing against each other and didn't think about what Maiden was doing. But now they do," said Edwards proudly.

As the navigator as well as skipper, Edwards takes a cerebral rather than muscular approach to sailing, studying the weather and wind, juggling the shortest course against the fastest speed. And says Tim Madge, it works. "The women on Maiden really think. They're not so bothered about appearing macho. Perhaps they take the sails in a bit earlier, but

the fact that they won the last two legs proves how good they are."

Chauvinistic words are being eaten by yachting pundits, or at least they're making the right noises in public. But, says Tracy Edwards, it's not giving her the enormous pleasure she'd anticipated from proving them wrong. "I find there's no need to be smug about it. I'm just happy I've changed their minds and I do believe Maiden has done that. Maybe not overnight, but I think our success will mean that there will be more women sailing on racing boats. Maybe not in the next Whitbread, but it will happen. It's got to. Because it just wasn't fair that women should be excluded from something we enjoy doing so much" — The Guardian.

Ship's doctor Claire Russell



Youngest crew member Jeni Mundy

For all your:

Packing,
Air Freight Forwarding,
Customs Clearance,
Door-to-door Service,
Ticketing and
Reservation needs,
please call:
AMIN KAWAR & SONS

Abdel Hamid Sharaf Street
Shmeisani
P.O. Box 7806
Amman, Jordan
Tel. 604676, 604696

CROWN INT'L EST.

packing, shipping,
forwarding, storing,
clearing, door-to-door
service

Agents all over the world
Tel: 604696, Fax: 604692
Tlx: 22266 BESSACO JO
P.O. Box 82487
AMMAN JORDAN

THE NAME YOU TRUST

TOP QUALITY
HOUSEHOLD
APPLIANCES

Electrolux

SHMAISANI AMMAN
TEL 604671

STUDIO HAIG

Professional Quality in
1 Hour Service
Develop your colour film at
our shop and get:-

• **JUMBO photo**
size 30% larger

• **Free enlarge-**
ment 20 x 30 cm

Shmeisani - Opp. Grindlays
Bank. Phone: 604042
Swefich tel: 823891

Slide film Processing by

Konica

Same Day Service
for all E6 films at
Salbashian
Trading Co.
Wadi Saqra str.
Next to Petra Bank
Headquarters
Tel : 633418

RENT

Saudi Real Estate

Furnished & unfurnished
apartments & villas for rent
in West Amman area.

CALL SOHA
Rental Dept. 687821/22

EASTERN

PACKING

DOOR-TO-DOOR SERVICES
INTERNATIONAL FORWARDING
AIR & SEA FREIGHT

RESTAURANT CHINA

The first & best
Chinese Restaurant
in Jordan

1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near
Abhiyah Girls School
Take away is available

Open daily 12:00-3:30
p.m.
6:30-Midnight
Tel. 628065

慕堂餐廳

MANDARIN
Chinese Restaurant

The only typical Chinese
cuisine in Amman.
Chinese Flaming pot is available
Take away available

Open daily 12:00 - 15:30
18:00 - 23:30

Wadi Saqra Road - near Traffic
Bridge
Amman, Jordan
Tel: 661922

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT

Mecca Street, Yarmouk
Engineers' Housing
Estate, near Kilo
Supermarket

**Mongolian Barbeque for
Lunch Friday only**

Tel: 616214

Come and taste our
specialities

Open daily 12:00 - 3:30
p.m.
6:30 - Midnight

MEXICAN FOOD

Between
1st & 2nd
Circle
Jabal Amman
Tel: 654205
Open For

LUNCH & DINNER

Hashmi

Restaurant

FIRST CLASS INDIAN
RESTAURANT

Special Executive Luncheons
Take away service
available

Open Daily 12:30 - 3:30 pm
7:30 - 11:30 pm

After the Philadelphia Hotel
Towards 3rd circle
Tel: 659519 659520

**TO ADVERTISE
IN THIS SECTION
CALL**

667171/6-670141/4

Ext. 223

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

CEAU plans seminar in May

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) is currently planning a seminar due to be held in Amman next May. The three-day seminar will discuss working papers on development and Arab economic integration in addition to the influence of the international economic variables on the economic situation in the Arab World. Taking part in the seminar will be Jordanian experts who will discuss the economic development in Jordan and its relatedness to the Arab economic integration.

Morning Star appeals for cash

LONDON (AP) — Britain's communist daily newspaper, The Morning Star, published a front-page appeal to its readers Monday for £150,000 (\$240,000) cash to buy new equipment. The appeal was "the only solution to the enormous crisis faced by the paper as the result of the drastic halving of the copies previously ordered by the Soviet Union," the newspaper said. The Morning Star's Soviet distributor, the Mezhnika Company, halved its daily order of 12,000 copies on Dec. 25 after the Communist Party ordered it to meet efficiency guidelines. The tabloid, which marked its 60th anniversary this month, will lose an estimated £400,000 pounds (\$660,000) of its annual income of £1.5 million (\$2.6 million) because of the Soviet cut.

EC unemployment declines

BRUSSELS (R) — The overall unemployment rate in the European Community (EC) dipped below nine per cent last November for the first time since 1982, the European Commission has said. The commission, the EC's executive body, said in a statement that a fall in the jobless rate from 9.7 to 8.9 per cent over the first 11 months of last year was a further sign of healthy Community economic growth. "This shows that the investment and growth-oriented policies of the Community are working... the aim of full employment is still far out but I am particularly happy that youth unemployment is falling even faster," said Henning Christophersen, commissioner for economic and financial affairs.

Iraq shifts refined oil products exports to crude

DUBAI (R) — Iraq has cut exports of refined oil products built up during and after the Gulf war as its vast crude export capacity returns to peacetime normality, oil traders in the Gulf said.

They said the move was a major policy change for Iraq which relied heavily on product sales when the eight year conflict with Iran hit crude exports as a source of sorely-needed cash to fund its war machine.

Iraq devised tortuous methods for exporting refined products to lessen the risk of Iranian attacks during the war which ended with a U.N.-brokered ceasefire in August 1988, and expanded afterwards because of war damage. But it has become just too costly to truck through Jordan and Turkey and use small tankers from shallow ports.

"Iraq was trucking products through Turkey and Jordan during the war, but now it has surplus crude export capacity," an oil analyst based in the Gulf said.

Oil industry sources said Iraq has stopped trucking products through Jordan and is phasing out products exports through Turkey. "Iraq wants to close down its small refineries and plans to use

whatever it produces at home," a Gulf-based oil trader said. There may be a small surplus of fuel oil after the bigger refineries have satisfied domestic needs, he added.

Iraq's State Oil Marketing Organisation (SOMO) has reduced first quarter naphtha exports to three Japanese companies from the Jebel Ali port in Dubai, other traders said. Iraq started shutting up to 35,000 barrels per day (b/d) of naphtha, gas oil and fuel oil in small vessels to the Star Energy Corporation's tank farm at Jebel Ali from its Basra refinery last April.

It had to resort to the shuttle from its Zubair port in the northern Gulf as its main port of Basra on the Shatt Al Arab waterway is still closed, blocked by war wreckage and a death-trap of exploded ordnance and mines.

Zubair port can only accommodate small vessels as the canals leading to the port are shallow. "Shuttling costs and storage

fees were expensive, but as refining margins were high up to now, it did not hurt (Iraq) that much," a Gulf-based oil trader said.

But he said as Iraq has a big crude export capacity it plans to reverse its war-time policy of exporting products.

He said Iraq will close small refineries it operated during the war but retain the larger Basra, Baiji and Daura refineries, which have a total processing capacity of up to 450,000 b/d. Iraq's domestic needs at present are about 300,000 b/d.

Iraq reopened its 140,000 b/d Basra refinery early last year after extensive repairs.

Last week Iraq officially inaugurated its main crude oil export pipeline through Saudi Arabia, which has a design capacity of 1.65 million b/d.

Oil industry sources said Iraq's current crude export capacity through pipelines via Turkey, Saudi Arabia and from its partially repaired Gulf deep water Al Bakr oil terminal is about five million b/d.

Its sales quota of crude and refined products determined by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) totals currently 3.14 million b/d.

Israel's Koor suspends repayments to creditors

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's Koor Industries suspended all payments on its \$1 billion debt Monday and chairman Arnon Gafny resigned in protest at plans to sell the group.

Company spokesman Arnon Bar-Noy told Reuters the Koor board decided to suspend payments of interest and principal to local and foreign creditors until its next meeting on Jan. 24.

Gafny announced his resignation before the meeting, saying: "Because discussion of the recovery plan has been suspended, because of the shortage of cash and the talk of selling the concern, I no longer see myself in a position to remain as chairman of the board."

Koor employs some 20,000 Israelis in activities ranging from cement and steel to food processing, electronics and telecommunications.

The trade union-owned conglomerate owes about \$1 billion to Israeli and foreign banks and has requested additional write-offs of \$125 million from its foreign creditors.

Foreign banks, led by Manufacturers Hanover, declined in December to agree to further write-offs, calling instead for efforts by Israeli creditors and the Israeli government.

Koor is due to make a key interest payment on \$105 million of U.S. bonds at the end of January and some company officials have expressed concern that if it defaults, creditors may move

to liquidate the giant concern. Two foreign investors, Shamrock Investment Corporation of California and the Canadian-based Belzberg Group, are discussing acquiring Koor, Israel's biggest industrial employer.

The main Israeli banks met Sunday to discuss the bids and said they would try to decide within a week.

Both offers depend on the government providing a \$50 million credit it promised Koor last year and on Koor selling assets to raise cash, treasury sources said.

Koor workers have protested at the proposed sale and threatened to block roads from Tuesday and bar potential purchasers from company premises, Ima News Agency said.

Representatives of Koor works committees also threatened to begin a strike next Sunday in all the company's subsidiaries and set up a permanent vigil outside the prime minister's office.

A spokesman for Hevrat Haovdim, the corporate arm of the Histadrut labour federation which owns Koor, said the company had accepted Gafny's resignation with regret.

Inflation tops 20%

Meanwhile, Israeli inflation rose to 20.7 per cent last year, the highest annual figure since 1985 when an austerity plan brought it down from more than 400 per cent, the Central Bureau of Statistics said Monday.

Syria strikes oil

DAMASCUS (AP) — The French Total Oil Company has made a new strike in the Wadi Oubaid, a region of northeast Syria, an official source at the ministry of petroleum and minerals reported Monday.

The source, speaking on condition of anonymity, gave no details of the strike such as the depth it was made or the daily oil flow.

But he said Total was continuing prospecting in the region to assess the size of the discovery. Total is one of 10 foreign companies involved in exploration and development of Syria's oilfields.

Crude oil production is currently running at around 350,000 barrels a day and is expected to soon reach 400,000 barrels daily when the Al Tayyami and Al Azba fields in the northeast go on stream.

Production is double domestic requirements and last year Syria became a net exporter for the first time, with revenues of \$550

million forecast this year. That is a major shot in the arm for the flagging economy.

The source reported that the Al Furat Petroleum Co., in which the state-run Syrian Petroleum Co. has a 50 per cent stake, West Germany's Deminor 18.75 per cent and U.S. Shell and Royal Dutch Shell with 15.625 per cent each — is conducting an assessment of the new field.

The source said the Syrian field in the northeastern Aged Al Sham region has reached the initial phase of production. He said output will reach 30,000 barrels a day of high-quality, low-sulphur crude when development is completed.

During the second half of last year, there were many new oil finds which are in the process of being developed, he said, but gave no details.

He predicted there will be more oil and gas strikes in the coming months amid widespread exploration.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Tuesday, January 16, 1990
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell		Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	632.0	638.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	447.1	451.6
Pound Sterling	1080.9	1091.7	Dutch guilder	330.6	343.0
Deutsche mark	362.9	365.7	Swedish crown	105.8	106.9
Swiss franc	430.1	434.4	Italian lira (for 100)	51.5	52.0
			Belgian franc (for 10)	184.3	186.1

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One Sterling	1.6903/13	U.S. dollars	
One U.S. dollar	1.1632/42	Canadian dollar	
	1.7103/10	Deutsche mark	
	1.9285/95	Dutch guilder	
	1.5278/88	Swiss franc	
	35.82/87	Belgian franc	
	5.8075/25	French franc	
	1272/1273	Italian lire	
	145.45/55	Japanese yen	
	6.1910/60	Swedish crown	
	6.5690/40	Norwegian crown	
	6.6210/60	Danish crown	
One ounce of gold	414.00/414.50	U.S. dollars	

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — The market closed weaker after nervous trading, pulled down by a heavy fall in Tokyo. The All Ordinaries index fell 6.3 to 1,675.4.

TOKYO — Worries about falling bond prices intensified, sending the Nikkei index plunging more than 800 points before a partial recovery at the close. The index ended at 36,850.36, down 666.41 or 1.78 pct.

HONG KONG — The Hang Seng index tumbled 34.90 to close at 2,751.79 in response to sharp declines in Wall Street and Tokyo.

SINGAPORE — Share prices retreated in the afternoon to close broadly lower in line with sharp losses on the Tokyo bourse. The Straits Times index fell 13.04 to end at 1,512.50.

BOMBAY — Shares fell for the second day on fears of heavy taxes in the budget for fiscal 1990/91, ending March.

FRANKFURT — Shares firmed more than three per cent amid concern that reforms in Eastern Europe could come to a halt if Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is forced out of office. The DAX index of 30 blue chips fell 52.93 to close at 1,788.68.

ZURICH — Swiss shares closed lower on profit taking after the market took its lead from weak German shares. The SPI index fell 17.4 points to 1,122.5.

PARIS — French share prices fell two per cent to the day's low at midsession, continuing Monday's slide in reaction to sharp drops on Wall Street and Tokyo, but volumes remained thin. The CAC-40 index was 40.46 lower at 1,922.43 by 1230 GMT.

LONDON — Shares moved off day's lows in late trading as Wall Street defied market's worst fears falling only modestly in early trade. By 1544 GMT the FTSE was 27.3 easier at 2,338.9.

NEW YORK — Wall Street stocks remained lower across the board, but blue chips were finding technical support at moderately lower levels. The Dow was off at 2649.

Jordan phosphate exports booming

AMMAN (R) — Jordan, the world's third biggest rock phosphate exporter, earned a record \$434 million from its highest-ever exports of the fertiliser base last year.

"1989 was a record year from all angles," Wasef Azar, managing director of the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC), told Reuters in an interview.

He said the company would increase earnings this year and hoped to boost exports to Eastern European countries trying to implement reforms that would lead to freer markets.

"We have to see what happens in Eastern Europe. We could have a better situation there," Azar said.

The phosphate industry, helped by rising world prices, is a bright spot in Jordan's recession-hit economy.

Central bank figures show that sales of phosphate rock and fertiliser derivatives produced by JPMC accounted for 44 per cent of Jordanian exports in the first eight months of 1989.

Azar said JPMC had exported 6.4 million tonnes last year, compared with exports of 5.8 million tonnes in 1988.

JPMC made a gross profit of 109 million dinars (\$160 million) and will pay 50 million dinars in company tax. The board of directors had recommended paying a dividend of 20 per cent to shareholders, against 15 per cent in 1988, he said.

Azar expected world phosphate prices, which have firmed in recent years, to rise by \$2 or \$3 a tonne in 1990 to a range of \$38 to \$52, depending on grade and quality.

The new Shidiya mine, being developed in the southern desert with help from the World Bank and Arab funds, produced 800,000 tonnes of phosphate rock last year, compared with 300,000 in 1988.

Output at the mine is due to rise to 3.2 million tonnes in 1992. The Shidiya area has 750 million



Wasef Azar

tonnes of proven phosphate reserves and 250 million tonnes of indicated reserves.

Azar said phosphate production would increase to 10 or 11 million tonnes a year by the end of the century. Local chemical plants would absorb as much as 3.5 million tonnes by then.

The Soviet Union, a new JPMC customer, is expected to buy about half a million tonnes of phosphate rock this year.

Fertiliser exports last year went mainly to East Africa and South Asia, instead of to Europe as in the past, Azar said.

JPMC exported 602,000 tonnes of the fertiliser ammonium phosphate (DAP), down from 625,400 in 1988, 16,000 tonnes of phosphoric acid, up from 14,000 in 1988, and 16,000 tonnes of aluminium fluoride, little changed from the previous year.

The Aqaba fertiliser plant, which in 1988 made a small profit, its first since it began operating in 1982, contributed 19 million dinars (\$28 million) to JPMC's 1989 profit.

JPMC has been discussing joint ventures to produce phosphoric acid, compound fertiliser and triple super phosphate with India, the Soviet Union and Pakistan.

Azar said he hoped expansion plans, involving up to six joint ventures, would be clarified by June.

West Germany extends stock exchange hours

FRANKFURT (R) — West Germany's eight stock exchanges Monday started opening for three hours each trading day instead of two as part of a campaign to counter competition from foreign bourses.

Although demand for West German stocks has surged since the opening of East German borders last November, the exchanges have been struggling to hold onto their own business.

Nearly one third of all turnover in West German blue chip shares is transacted not in Frankfurt or Hamburg but in London.

Frankfurt bank Georg Hauck Und Sohn said in his latest report that the extension of bourse hours "should lead to a further strengthening of the West German stock market."

Brokers welcomed the extra hour, saying it helped them handle the scramble for shares by investors who believe West German companies are best placed to benefit from the sweeping changes in Eastern Europe.

Official trade now begins one hour earlier at 1030 local time (0930 GMT) and ends as usual at 1330 local time (1230 GMT).

The session is still much shorter than at most other financial centres, where trading usually begins early in the morning and ends in mid-afternoon or early evening.

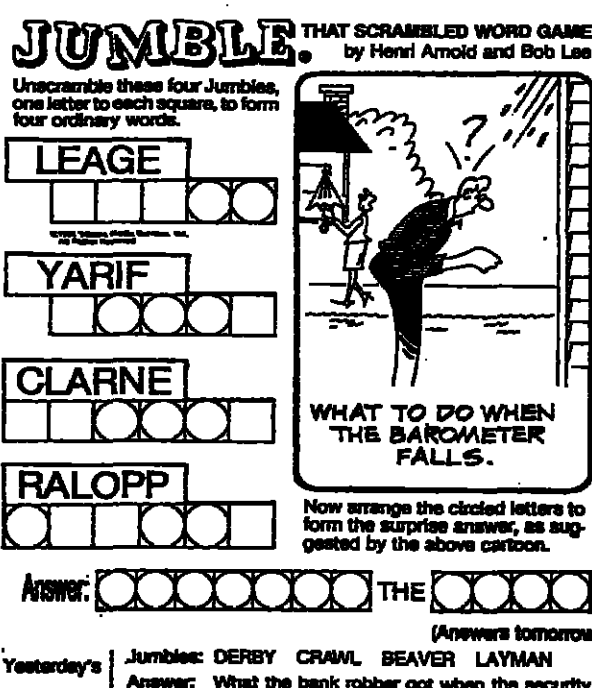
Michael Waldeck, managing director of the Frankfurt Stock Exchange, the largest West German bourse, termed the first day of extended hours a success.

Volume was lively and the DAX index of 30 leading West German shares recovered from a weak opening to end at 1,841.61, down 14.05 points from Friday but up 22 from the day's low.

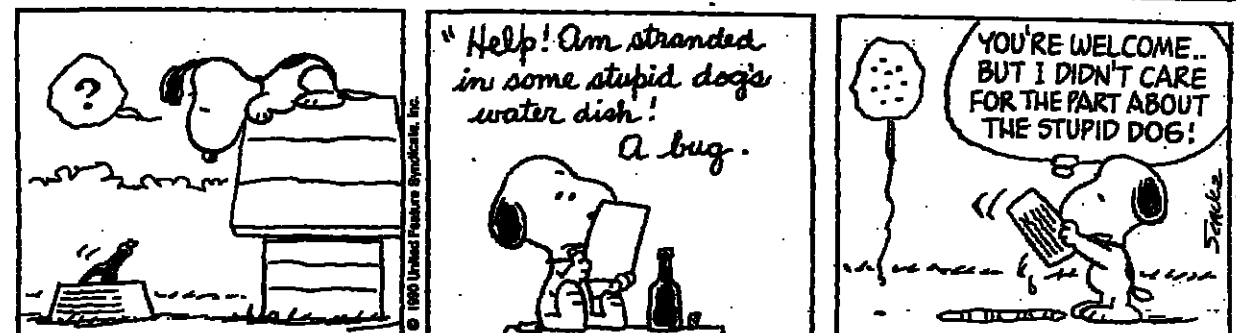
"If you had cut the DAX off an hour earlier, then you would have cut off a part of that recovery as well," Waldeck said.

Most brokers doubted that hours would be extended further in Frankfurt.

Other measures to sharpen competition include the December start-up of IBIS, a screen-based securities quote system seen as a first step toward computerised trading, and the launch next week of a new options and futures exchange, Deutsche Termin Boerse (DTB).



Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



'UAE reaching WC finals a dream come true'

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — The United Arab Emirates' success in reaching the World Cup finals in Italy this year is "a dream come true," but it was little chance of getting past the first round, the former national squad captain said Monday.

But Ahmed Eissa stressed in an interview with the Associated Press that the UAE team is out to play hard and gain the most experience it can playing the world's top soccer teams.

"It's a dream come true for the UAE," said Eissa. "I never expected to see the team qualify for the World Cup finals in my lifetime."

It will be the first time the Emirates' squad has reached the finals of soccer's top tournament. The UAE is grouped with former champions West Germany,

Yugoslavia and Colombia in the 24-nation finals starting June 9. "naturally we're overjoyed, but we know that we don't progress beyond the first round. However, that won't stop us from giving our best," Eissa said.

Eissa, who has watched the Germans, Yugoslavs and Colombians play, noted: "They're all very good and professional. It's unique experience for the Emirates to play with the world's best teams and we mustn't waste this opportunity."

He added: "The players must be prepared to work hard. They must not only make the best use of the opportunity, but keep the UAE and Gulf flag flying high with their performances."

"Even when they're losing, they mustn't lose heart. They must fight on," Eissa, 38, was the captain of

the UAE's first national squad when it was formed in 1972 and stayed on as skipper until 1980.

When he began his soccer career — he played midfield — the UAE, a federation of seven Gulf emirates, had been formed only a few months earlier.

In those days, soccer games were played on sand. But the sport has come a long way since as the Emirates' oil wealth was spent lavishly on providing facilities and developing players.

There are now 29 clubs in the UAE League, split into two divisions, reflecting soccer's coming of age in the Gulf region.

In recent years, Kuwait and Iraq have also qualified for the World Cup finals. Saudi Arabia took part in the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics and won the junior World Cup last year.

Soccer was introduced into the UAE about 1940, back in the days when the emirates, then known as part of the truce coast, were under British protection. British teams arranged friendly games in the region.

The former Al Ahli Club captain now works for the country's governing sports body, the UAE

supreme council in the youth and sports.

"We Arabs took to football... because we love an exciting sport," Eissa said.

"Before the UAE was formed, each emirate had different leagues and the standards were low. But after the national league was formed in 1972 things began to get better organized."

For a while, clubs in the emirates of Dubai played on artificial pitches. But these were abandoned in the early 1980s because of a high injury rate and the lower cost of maintaining grass pitches.

Eissa was one of the driving forces behind a 1983 move to ban foreign players from competing in local leagues.

At that time, the Gulf countries were using their oil wealth to attract Arab and international stars to strengthen their national teams.

"When the football association decided to ban foreign players, it hoped that would allow local players to fill the gaps and give them an incentive to play better football," Eissa said.

"Now we know that it's paid off and we're happy about it."

AUSTRALIAN OPEN:

Becker, McEnroe ease past 1st hurdle

By Robert Woodward
Reuter

MELBOURNE — Boris Becker, in a hurry to become world number one, and John McEnroe, who at 30 realizes time is rapidly running out, expended little effort to race into the second round of the Australian Open on Tuesday.

The pair each lost just four games, Becker routing Dutchman Paul Haarhuis 6-1, 6-2, 6-1 on the centre court where the American number four seed earlier disposed of Frenchman Thierry Tulasne's limp challenge 6-2, 6-1, 6-1.

Becker, often a slow starter in

major tournaments, was delighted with his performance in the night game. "I think it was one of the best first round grand slam matches ever for me. From the first point I was really playing very well which is not normal, the number two seed said."

Both players have claimed three Wimbledon singles crowns and also won the U.S. Open but have yet to win the Australian title. McEnroe knows 1990 could be his last chance.

"I know I don't have that much time left," said McEnroe, who is bypassing the doubles here to stay fresh. "I still think I'm a long shot to win this tournament."

Becker admits he has not played to his potential at the Australian Open, never passing the quarter-finals.

But victory in Melbourne would give him three successive grand slam titles and underline his claim to be the world's best player rather than Czechoslovakia's Ivan Lendl.

Becker needed to play at little more than half pace against Haarhuis, who beat McEnroe at the 1989 U.S. Open.

The Dutchman appeared ill at ease, making too many unforced errors as his opponent moved him at will around the court, but Becker said he had also been nervous.

I was thinking very much about how he beat McEnroe and it made me a little afraid at the beginning," said Becker. "Maybe that's the reason why I played so well."

"But in a grand slam if you want to win the tournament you cannot play too well too early because you'll play worse by the time the quarter-final comes around. It's a fine line playing not too good and not bad."

Third seed Stefan Edberg, who saved three set points in the first set before moving past Australia's Johan Anderson, said it was too early to speak of Becker as the next king of men's tennis.

"I see myself as a contender although at the moment looking at the rankings it is a battle between Lendl and Becker and me coming a little behind," said Edberg, who reached two grand slam finals in 1989. He won 7-6, 6-3, 6-4 on Tuesday.

On the second day of the two-week championships only one men's seed, Carl-Uwe Steeb of West Germany, and one women's, Larissa Savchenko of the Soviet Union, failed to make it through the first round.

Number 10 seed Steeb appeared tired after his efforts in reaching the New South Wales Open final last week, fell 5-7, 6-3, 0-6, 6-2, 6-2 to Finland's Veli Paloheimo while Savchenko, seeded 12, lost out after a titanic struggle to France's Catherine Tanvier 4-6, 6-1, 12-10.

Second seed Gabriela Sabatini took some time to find her range



John McEnroe

against hard-hitting American Amy Frazier, recovering from 5-3 down in the first set to win 7-5, 6-1.

Three men's seeds, Andrei Gornes of Ecuador (9), Yhnick Nuh of France (12) and Andrei Chesnokov of the Soviet Union (11), needed five sets to reach the second round.

Noah, who defeated Steeb in the New South Wales Open final, was also still sore from his exertions and complained he could not function properly in a match that started at 10 a.m.

"I hate waking up early in the morning and having to work hard. I've never been able to be physically 100 per cent in the morning," he said after beating Yugoslav Goran Prpic, who led 3-0 in the fifth set with a point for 4-0.

Chesnokov, who conducts press conferences with the same languid grace with which Czechoslovak Miloslav Mecier plays tennis, agreed he nearly left it too late to win his game against Australia's Mark Kratzmann, coming from two sets down to win 3-6, 6-7, 7-6, 6-3, 6-2.

"When the score was 5-4 (in the third set tiebreak), I just closed my eyes and hit the ball as hard as possible," Chesnokov said.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF
& TAMMAM HIRSH
© 1989 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

COUNT YOUR TRICKS

Both vulnerable. South deals.		have responded originally on a
NORTH		slightly sub-standard hand.
♠ A J 10 3 2		West led a diamond, and declarer
♥ 6 5		won the first trick since she did not
♦ 7 4 3		want a heart suit. She led the queen
♣ J 4 2		of spades, and West covered with
WEST	EAST	the king. How could you continue
♠ K 5	♠ 9 7 4 4	at "rubber bridge"? Would you play
♥ 8 3 2	♥ Q J 10 9 7	differently at duplicate?
♦ Q 10 8 6 5	♦ J 9	With five fast tricks outside the
♣ K 8 4	♣ Q 10	trump suit, you need four tricks
SOUTH		from that suit to make your con-
♠ Q 5		tract. At rubber bridge the play is
♥ A K 4		easy—allow the king of spades to
♦ A K 2		hold the trick. That will guarantee
♣ A 7 5 3		your contract whenever spades

Opening lead: Six of ♣.

We're about to give you some advice which will fatten your wallet if you're a rubber bridge player, but might wreak havoc with your duplicate game: Take care of your contract and let the overtricks take care of themselves.

North's five-card suit and honor in partner's club suit was just enough to warrant raising to game. Note that the jump to two no trump, since it gives an exact count of the South hand, is not a game force. It can be passed should North

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY JANUARY 17, 1990

By Thomas S. Pearson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is a day when problems from the past will need your immediate attention and you may need to expend more time and effort than you have available.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) A good time to plan trips with friends who are interesting or talented. Be considerate and take your family away from home to new places.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You will find you and your family are in harmony about your joint objectives. Don't hesitate to discuss any and all issues with your loved one.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Listen closely to what an outspoken person has to suggest in solving a problem. Home can be more attractive and comfortable by some new items.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Make sure any plans for outside recreations are carefully arranged. Your home can be a particularly happy place today.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Get out in the world of action to carry through whatever promises you have made. You can have a very good time getting out on the town with your attachment.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) If you want to add to your home in anyway, now is the time to do so. Be ready to be off on a jaunt

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Maradona escapes FIFA punishment

ZURICH (R) — Argentine soccer star Diego Maradona has escaped punishment by the International Football Federation (FIFA) for alleging that the 1990 World Cup draw was fixed. "The disciplinary action taken by the Italian soccer federation has our full support. The case is closed as far as FIFA is concerned," FIFA spokesman Guido Tognoni told Reuters. The Napoli and Argentine World Cup captain was fined 10 million lire (\$7,000) on Friday by the Italian league's disciplinary committee for his complaint last month about his national team's tough grouping. Maradona said on December 19: "Personally I think that the December 9 draw was decided in advance. (Argentina's) group is the hardest of all. It's my opinion but I'll express it: The draw had already been made."

Athlete suspended for evading test

LONDON (AP) — English shot put and discus thrower John Painter has been suspended from competition for two years because he evaded a drug test, the Amateur Athletics Association said Monday. AAA spokesman Tony Ward also said the organization will amend its rules, partly as a result of the Painter case, to treat future instances of "deliberate evasion" of a drug test the same as failing a test — and suspend the offender for life. "A number of attempts were made to give the man a test and each time he cancelled or did not appear," Ward said. "We felt this was tantamount to refusing to take a test and was definite evasion."

Journalist killed in Paris-Dakar rally

PARIS (R) — A Finnish journalist was killed in a car crash on Sunday while covering the Paris-Dakar rally, the first death for two years in the grueling race through the Sahara desert, organizers said. Kaj Salminen, 37, was killed instantly when his press car collided with a local vehicle at the entrance to the village of Markala in Southwest Mali during the 685-km 16th stage of the race from Tidjikja in Mauritania to Kayes in Mali. Salminen, himself a former racer, was the 27th death in the event since it began in 1979.

Next Thursday and
every Thursday read

The Star

Jordan's political, economic & cultural weekly newsmagazine
P O Box 9313, Amman, Jordan. Tel: 648298

FOREIGN COMPANY LEAVING SOON:

Fully equipped office in Shmeisani Business Center or may sell furniture /machines.

Tel: 684374/678086

JORDAN ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY
RISHA GAS POWER STATION
ANNOUNCEMENT OF TENDER
AVAILABILITY
FOR
GENERATOR TRANSFORMERS
TENDER No. 53/89

Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) announces the Tender Document, No. 53/89 is available for purchase as of 17 January, 1990.

The Tender consists of manufacturing and supply of two (2) Generator Transformers 11/132 K.v. 45 MVA. The supplier shall provide supervision during erection and commissioning.

Sealed tenders shall be submitted to the Secretary of JEA Tendering Committee before 10:00 a.m. Amman time, 17 March, 1990 at the JEA offices in Amman.

Tender documents are available at the address given below for a non-refundable fee of JD 50 payable to JEA for each set of the tender documents.

Jordan Electricity Authority
Jabal Amman - 7th Circle
Post Office Box 2310
Amman, Jordan
Telex: 21259 JEASAK
Fax. No. 818336

FOR RENT
REASONABLY PRICED VILLA

Nice location in quiet residential area; completely independent; electrolux appliances; Danish and American furniture; very good condition. C.H., TV, Video, telephone. 3 bedrooms; living-dining room; salon; 3 bathrooms; spacious kitchen; 3 terraces; garden; garage.

Call 662468; Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

JORDAN ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY
RISHA GAS POWER STATION
ANNOUNCEMENT OF TENDER
AVAILABILITY
FOR
GAS CONDITIONING PLANT AND PIPELINE
FACILITIES
TENDER No. 52/89

Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) announces the Tender Document, No. 52/89 is available for purchase as of 17 January, 1990.

The tender consists of supply, erection, testing and commissioning of gas conditioning unit, pipeline facilities and auxiliaries required for the treatment of gas for Risha Gas Power Station.

Sealed tenders shall be submitted to the Secretary of JEA Tendering Committee before 10:00 a.m. Amman time, 17 March 1990 at the JEA offices in Amman.

Tender documents are available at the address given below for a non-refundable fee of JD 150 payable to JEA for each set of the tender documents.

Jordan Electricity Authority
Jabal Amman - 7th Circle
Post Office Box 2310
Amman, Jordan
Telex: 21259 JEASAK
Fax. No. 818336

Jordan Times
667171-6

FURNISHED HOUSE TO LET

Three bedrooms, two salons, two verandas, a spacious kitchen, telephone is installed. Located just behind American Embassy Stores at Seventh Circle.

If interested please call 812399

For a splendid time
come to

ANNABELLE'S

Enjoy our unique french cuisine
in an entertaining superb candle
light dancing atmosphere

No cover charge.

For reservations please call:



Amman International Hotel

Tel: 841712

THE Daily Crossword by Harvey Clyke

ACROSS	1 Contours	11 Lateral	21 Lateral	31 Lateral	41 Lateral	51 Lateral	61 Lateral	71 Lateral	81 Lateral	91 Lateral	101 Lateral	111 Lateral	121 Lateral	131 Lateral	141 Lateral	151 Lateral	161 Lateral	171 Lateral	181 Lateral	191 Lateral	201 Lateral	211 Lateral	221 Lateral	231 Lateral	241 Lateral	251 Lateral	261 Lateral	271 Lateral	281 Lateral	291 Lateral	301 Lateral						
DOWN	1 Ancient bard	2 — captain	3 War god	4 Sea creature	5 Chemical	6 Lateral	7 Agree	8 Great deal	9 Lateral	10 Get angry	11 Submerged	12 Biblical mount	13 Edna	14 Endless	15 Leaving	16 Ale. poet	17 Be angry	18 Lateral	19 Author's following	20 Yellow back	21 Don't	22 AH's dog	23 Hawaiian bird	24 Alarms for short	25 Spartan airt	26 Kind of ear	27 War god	28 Tabor	29 Complete	30 Like a hawk	31 Mad as a	32 Only	33 Be patient	34 Narrative	35 poem	36 Tabor	37 Before

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419	420	421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Boat people protest Hurd's visit

HONG KONG (AP) — Thousands of Vietnamese boat people protested Tuesday during a visit by British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd to a detention centre, pleading against forced returns to their communist homeland.

Wearing white head bands reading "No forced repatriation," the refugees gathered in the exercise yard of Hei Ling Chau detention centre before Hurd arrived for a 25-minute visit.

In comments to reporters at the camp, Hurd said forced repatriation was the only solution to Hong Kong's boat people crisis. Vietnamese greeted the visit with shouts and fist raising.

The government began forcible repatriation on Dec. 12 in a pre-dawn operation at a detention centre in Kowloon. In all, 51 men, women and children were sent back to Hanoi.

Of the 40,000 Vietnamese in detention centres throughout the colony, about 85 per cent face being sent home because they will not qualify for refugee status under a screening process.

Hong Kong divides the Vietnamese into "economic migrants," who it says have no right to remain in the territory, and refugees, who risk political persecution at home and will be allowed to seek refuge in a third country.

Meanwhile, the United Nations announced that a group of 120 Vietnamese were voluntarily returned to their homeland Tuesday. So far, 997 Vietnamese have voluntarily gone back to Vietnam. More than 1,000 are waiting to return.

The foreign secretary, on the last day of a four-day visit to Hong Kong, said the demonstration was expected and non-threatening.

Hurd said the camps held too many people in too small a space but added that forcing them out of Hong Kong was the only way to solve the problem.

On Monday, Amnesty International issued a report harshly criticising the Hong Kong government's treatment of the Vietnamese. It accused police and security forces of beating refugees and said investigations of official brutality were quashed by the agencies involved.

The London-based human rights organisation said Hong Kong had placed the Vietnamese in squalid detention centres to stem the tide of refugees fleeing Vietnam. That, it said, was a violation of the U.N. Charter on Refugees.

The government called the report "unfounded" and denied the brutality charges.

11 found dead
The bodies of 11 women, believed to have been boat people killed by pirates, have washed up on Thailand's southern shore, police said Tuesday.

Six bodies were found on the beaches of Nakhon Si Thammarat Sunday and five more Monday, said a senior officer on condition of anonymity.

Some of the bodies were stripped, and each had a nylon rope tied around the neck, he said. They showed no stab or gunshot wounds.

Islamabad in inertia awaiting 'the birth'

By Malcolm Davidson
Reporter

ISLAMABAD — Benazir Bhutto will soon become the world's first prime minister to give birth while in office, but the likely date remains Pakistan's best kept secret.

Not even her closest advisers will admit to knowing when the child is due for fear that it could give the opposition a chance to launch a challenge to her fragile government.

But while Pakistan waits, political analysts say the government machine is grinding to a standstill, with a series of tough decisions being put off until after "the birth".

It is two months since all Bhutto's ministers submitted their resignations to allow a cabinet reshuffle after an opposition no-confidence motion she narrowly survived.

She asked them to stay on temporarily but has made no move to make changes in a line-up that is widely regarded as short on talent.

Romanians watch a drawing of overthrown dictator with a swastika and dracula's teeth in the northern city of Cluj

Ceausescu's son, others face charges of genocide

BUCHAREST (Agencies) — The youngest son of Nicolae Ceausescu will be put on trial this week along with other close associates of the executed Romanian dictator.

Prosecutor-General Gheorghe Robu said Monday that the case against Nicu Ceausescu, 36, would begin this week although he did not specify the precise charges against him.

But Robu, in interviews on television and with the Romania Libera newspaper, said Ceausescu family members and associates would face such charges as complicity in genocide, abetting genocide, qualified murder and undermining the national economy.

Nicu, whose stronghold was the central provincial capital of Sibiu, was arrested shortly after the Dec. 22 overthrow of his father.

Robu said those standing trial

from this week would include former political and administrative personalities, members of Ceausescu's family and hundreds of "terrorists."

Romania's new rulers use the term terrorist to describe members of Ceausescu's hated secret police and anyone else who fought to keep the dictator in power.

Ceausescu's eldest son Valentin and his daughter Zoe are also under arrest awaiting trial. Ceausescu and his wife Elena were executed by firing squad on Christmas Day after a brief trial by a military tribunal for genocide.

The ruling National Salvation Front (NSF) abolished the death penalty on Jan. 1 saying Ceausescu and his wife would be the last executions.

But under intense public pressure, they have since decided to

put the matter to a referendum on Jan. 28.

The government also announced an amnesty Monday for crimes committed before the Dec. 22 revolution that overthrew the regime. It excluded from the Amnesty former functionaries of Ceausescu, murderers, rapists and "terrorists."

Trials are to begin Friday in Timisoara for 11 Securitate members, Rompress said. The Securitate's shooting of demonstrators in Timisoara last month ignited the Romanian revolution.

Police had said Saturday those trials were to begin Monday. There was no explanation for the delay.

The government, meanwhile, promised Monday to consult all opposition parties on the timing of elections, but said it would make the final decision on the controversial question.

Teenager, baby freed after uproar

LONDON (AP) — A teenage mother jailed with her baby in a shoplifting case is to be freed, a court ruled Monday, ending a legal drama that had Britain in uproar.

Tracey Scott, a 19-year-old unmarried supermarket cashier, was jailed for six months by a judge who said he wanted to deter women from getting pregnant to avoid jail.

Her crime was to let friends walk out of the supermarket with goods unpaid for. She pleaded guilty to 10 charges of theft, and went to prison two weeks ago with her daughter, Alesha, then 10 weeks old.

Coming from Northern Circuit Judge James Pickles, the punishment was not entirely a surprise. The 64-year-old judge is known nationwide for his quirky sentencing.

Only last June he was in the headlines for jailing a witness who was too frightened to testify against a man accused of beating her up, and the day after putting

Scott in prison. He let off two of the supermarket thieves with 50 hours community service apiece.

"By making a lottery of the law, Judge Pickles treats the public with contempt. He must not be allowed to continue," fumed the tabloid Today newspaper.

The Times opined that "Judge Pickles' decision again needs questioning in this case."

Pickles maintained in his verdict that while he did not suspect Scott of getting pregnant to avoid going to prison, he was afraid other women might get that idea.

"Would it be right," he asked, "to let young women know that one way of possibly or probably avoiding custody would be to deliberately become pregnant between the time they have been detected committing a crime and the time they were being sentenced?"

Lord Lane, the lord chief justice, clearly thought not. Presiding over Monday's court of appeals hearing, he said Pickles'

reasoning had left a "most unfortunate" impression.

The offence was not serious enough to warrant imprisonment, Lane said. A high school dropout from a broken home, Scott had been a good worker at the supermarket in Huddersfield, Northern England, and seemed only to win popularity, he said.

Pickles, the judge said, "seems to us to have been concerned more with the public import of what he was doing and saying, rather than the justice of it."

Scott is in Styl women's prison in Cheshire, and was brought to a court hearing in London Tuesday where she was to be formally released.

Pickles is an unusual judge. He flouts regulations by discussing his actions in the news media, and takes a blunt-talking populist line. "I don't like the notion of aristocracy or even monarchy. I don't accept anyone is different from me because they were born in a different bed," he told the Sunday Times in March.

Lord Lane, the lord chief justice, clearly thought not. Presiding over Monday's court of appeals hearing, he said Pickles'

reasoning had left a "most unfortunate" impression.

The offence was not serious enough to warrant imprisonment, Lane said. A high school dropout from a broken home, Scott had been a good worker at the supermarket in Huddersfield, Northern England, and seemed only to win popularity, he said.

Pickles, the judge said, "seems to us to have been concerned more with the public import of what he was doing and saying, rather than the justice of it."

Scott is in Styl women's prison in Cheshire, and was brought to a court hearing in London Tuesday where she was to be formally released.

Pickles is an unusual judge. He flouts regulations by discussing his actions in the news media, and takes a blunt-talking populist line. "I don't like the notion of aristocracy or even monarchy. I don't accept anyone is different from me because they were born in a different bed," he told the Sunday Times in March.

Lord Lane, the lord chief justice, clearly thought not. Presiding over Monday's court of appeals hearing, he said Pickles'

reasoning had left a "most unfortunate" impression.

Storming of secret police HQ alarms East Berlin

EAST BERLIN (AP) — East Germany's Communists said Tuesday the storming of secret police headquarters showed the country's "secret revolution" could get out of hand.

But workers in one city Tuesday ignored appeals for calm by the Communists and the pro-democracy opposition and staged a warning strike.

The six-hour strike at a state-owned factory in Gera, in southern East Germany, was staged by workers to show dissatisfaction with the still-dominant Communists, according to West Berlin's Rias radio station.

In Bonn, the conservative daily newspaper Die Welt said Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev was expected to visit East Berlin in the next two or three weeks.

Die Welt, quoting what it called well-informed sources in East Berlin, said Gorbachev planned a "massive show of support" for his long-time friend, East German Communist Premier Hans Modrow.

Hundreds of thousands of East Germans protested Monday in several cities, including Jena, Zwickau and East Berlin, and mobs ransacked secret police headquarters in East Berlin.

No casualties were reported. At a news conference, national police chief Dieter Winderlich said prosecutors were already investigating possible criminal charges against those who ransacked the headquarters.

He claimed protesters had also broken into the building's section for counterespionage activities, but that "the identity of the workers was not revealed."

Winderlich said damage at the building was in the "millions of marks." However, earlier Tuesday, East Berlin police chief Dirk Bachmann gave a far lower damage estimate, saying it was "hundreds of thousands of marks."

Bachmann also said opposition group's calls for restraint had prevented injuries during the storming.

The secret police headquarters remained under control of an opposition-led "citizens committee," regular police officers and government representatives.

In a commentary Tuesday, the Communist Party daily newspaper Neues Deutschland said organisers of protests like that which preceded the storming of secret police headquarters must accept responsibility for the consequences.

"Responsibility also means having a clear idea about consequences before calling for a demonstration, so that things don't get out of hand," the newspaper said in a front-page editorial.

Neues Deutschland added: "The call for 'no violence,' which has marked the street revolution from the start, becomes a farce when emotions break through the bounds of reason."

Dozens of protesters in the southern city of Cottbus pelted the local secret police building with rocks, and unsuccessfully tried to enter it.

Official news media also report-

ed that about 500,000 people demonstrated against the Communists and secret police in at least a dozen more cities Monday evening.

Modrow rushed to the East Berlin secret police headquarters, a complex about two blocks square. He pleaded with protesters to stop their plundering of the eight-storey building.

Looking worried, Modrow shouted through a loudspeaker system to the demonstrators, asking them "to stay in a dialogue" with his shaky coalition government.

Alternately facing angry interruptions and applause from the protesters, Modrow said he felt "full understanding" of the rage caused by decades of repression at the hands of the secret police.

Hours earlier, Modrow had offered opposition groups a far greater say in running the caretaker government before democratic elections May 6.

The protest actions are reaching further into virtually all parts of society and even all age groups. Increasingly, children are joining adults, including those in their 50s and 60s.

Opposition leaders in East Berlin issued several appeals Tuesday morning for calm and urged demonstrators to avoid further violence.

After weeks of talks with Modrow's government, the opposition returned Monday to the tactics that brought down the hardline government of Erich Honecker in October.

The ANC committed itself last year to seek a negotiated settlement and says it is ready for talks with de Klerk if he meets certain conditions.

First among these is the release of Nelson Mandela, widely expected in the next few weeks.

Mandela's detention has been the focus of a highly successful worldwide campaign by the ANC but his release could backfire on the organisation if world opinion sees it as the end of South Africa's problems.

The ANC argue that any concessions made by de Klerk have been wrung from him by pressure and that South Africa must not be "let off the hook."

Reunited ANC leadership launches strategy talks

LUSAKA (R) — Leaders of the African National Congress (ANC), reunited after more than 25 years in jail and exile, began talks Tuesday aimed at defining their strategy for negotiations with the South African government.

Walter Sisulu and Govan Mbeki, leading a group of prominent ANC members who arrived here Monday to an emotional welcome from exiled comrades, made a brief public appearance to lay a wreath at a Zambian national monument.

ANC official Stanley Mazibela said they were to meet the nationalist movement's policy-making inner cabinet and then attend an official reception hosted by Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda.

The arrival of Sisulu and his grey-haired group of prison veterans has lifted the morale of the 78-year-old organisation, driven into exile in the early 1960s.

But senior ANC officials said their trip was more than a sentimental reunion between men who last met 27 years ago.

"We don't want to be caught flat-footed," said National Executive Committee member Steve Tshwete, one of the younger leaders.

His comment reflected nationalist concern that the ANC might be outpaced by fast-moving changes inside South Africa and by President F.W. de Klerk's drive to seize the initiative from anti-apartheid forces.

At one point, pilots flying weapons for Noriega to the U.S.-supported contra rebels in Nicaragua are said by witnesses to have flown on to the United States with a cargo of narcotics.

Noriega, who controlled Panama's security apparatus, was well positioned to engage in "the gray market arms business," according to the 1983 report of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on narcotics headed by Democratic Sen. John Kerry.

Even before the death of General Omar Torrijos, then Panama's ruling figure, in a mysterious 1981 plane crash, Noriega had the authority to issue certificates to legitimise the shipment of foreign arms to Panama.

"Once in Panama, Noriega would sell the weapons to whomever bid the most for them," the committee said, citing the testimony of Jose Blandon, a former Panamanian intelligence official and one-time Noriega adviser.

Blandon told the subcommittee that Noriega's earliest clients in the late 1970s included the Sandinista rebels in Nicaragua, who were successfully battling to oust that country's leader, Anastasio Somoza.

Noriega's associates purchased the weapons in Europe, brought them to Panama and then moved them into neighbouring Costa Rica for shipment to the Sandinistas.

Quoting Blandon, the report said that those buying guns for Noriega included Michael Harari, a retired agent of the Israeli intelligence service, Mossad.

Harari who travelled to Israel immediately after U.S. troops invaded Panama last month, has been described as one of Noriega's closest advisers, a description he rejects as false.

The Senate panel reported that although Noriega sold many weapons to the Sandinistas, "many more wound up in storage when the Sandinistas war ended in 1979."

Floyd Carlton, a former Noriega pilot, testified that the excess weapons were then "marketed by Panama to the rebels in El Salvador."

Carlton said he and his partner, Cesar Rodriguez, flew the weapons to El Salvador in 1980 using Panamanian military aircraft.

On one trip the plane Rodriguez was flying was damaged on takeoff and crashed when it attempted to land in El Salvador. Carlton, flying a second Panamanian plane on the same weapons-delivery mission, said he pulled Rodriguez from the aircraft, put him on his plane and flew to Panama.

"When Salvadorean officials discovered the wreckage of the

that although Noriega sold many weapons to the Sandinistas, "many more wound up in storage when the Sandinistas war ended in 1979."

Floyd Carlton, a former Noriega pilot, testified that the excess weapons were then "marketed by Panama to the rebels in El Salvador."

Carlton said he and his partner, Cesar Rodriguez, flew the weapons to El Salvador in 1980 using Panamanian military aircraft.

On one trip the plane Rodriguez was flying was damaged on takeoff and crashed when it attempted to land in El Salvador. Carlton, flying a second Panamanian plane on the same weapons-delivery mission, said he pulled Rodriguez from the aircraft, put him on his plane and flew to Panama.

"When Salvadorean officials discovered the wreckage of the

that although Noriega sold many weapons to the Sandinistas, "many more wound up in storage when the Sandinistas war ended in 1979."

Floyd Carlton, a former Noriega pilot, testified that the excess weapons were then "marketed by Panama to the rebels in El Salvador."

Carlton said he and his partner, Cesar Rodriguez, flew the weapons to El Salvador in 1980 using Panamanian military aircraft.

On one trip the plane Rodriguez was flying was damaged on takeoff and crashed when it attempted to land in El Salvador. Carlton, flying a second Panamanian plane on the same weapons-delivery mission, said he pulled Rodriguez from the aircraft, put him on his plane and flew to Panama.

"When Salvadorean officials discovered the wreckage of the

that although Noriega sold many weapons to the Sandinistas, "many more wound up in storage when the Sandinistas war ended in 1979."

Floyd Carlton, a former Noriega pilot, testified that the excess weapons were then "marketed by Panama to the rebels in El Salvador."

Carlton said he and his partner, Cesar Rodriguez, flew the weapons to El Salvador in 1980 using Panamanian military aircraft.

On one trip the plane Rodriguez was flying was damaged on takeoff and crashed when it attempted to land in El Salvador. Carlton, flying a second Panamanian plane on the same weapons-delivery mission, said he pulled Rodriguez from the aircraft, put him on his plane and flew to Panama.

"When Salvadorean officials discovered the wreckage of the

that although Noriega sold many weapons to the Sandinistas, "many more wound up in storage when the Sandinistas war ended in 1979."

Floyd Carlton, a former Noriega pilot, testified that the excess weapons were then "marketed by Panama to the rebels in El Salvador."

Carlton said he and his partner, Cesar Rodriguez, flew the weapons to El Salvador in 1980 using Panamanian military aircraft.

On one trip the plane Rodriguez was flying was damaged on takeoff and crashed when it attempted to land in El Salvador. Carlton, flying a second Panamanian plane on the same weapons-delivery mission, said he pulled Rodriguez from the aircraft, put him on his plane and flew to Panama.

"When Salvadorean officials discovered the wreckage of the

C8 LUMN

High noon on California freeway

LOS ANGELES (R) — One man was killed and another wounded Monday when two men who had an argument on a California freeway pulled out guns and opened fire, police said. A lorry and a van, each carrying at least two people, pulled over to the side of the Santa Ana freeway after an argument. "At least one occupant of each of the vehicles got out and exchanged some words and suddenly shots were fired," police spokesman Marc Hedgepeth said. One man died soon after being admitted to hospital and the other was listed in stable condition with a gunshot wound. Both were in their early twenties.

Alternately facing angry interruptions and applause from the protesters, Modrow said he felt "full understanding" of the rage caused by decades of repression at the hands of the secret police.

Hours earlier, Modrow had offered opposition groups a far greater say in running the caretaker government before democratic elections May 6.

The protest actions are reaching further into virtually all parts of society and even all age groups. Increasingly, children are joining adults, including those in their 50s and 60s.

Opposition leaders in East Berlin issued several appeals Tuesday morning for calm and urged demonstrators to avoid further violence.

After weeks of talks with Modrow's government, the opposition returned Monday to the tactics that brought down the hardline government of Erich Honecker in October.

The ANC committed itself last year to seek a negotiated settlement and says it is ready for talks with de Klerk if he meets certain conditions.

First among these is the release of Nelson Mandela, widely expected in the next few weeks.

Mandela's detention has been the focus of a highly successful worldwide campaign by the ANC but his release could backfire on the organisation if world opinion sees it as the end of South Africa's problems.

The ANC argue that any concessions made by de Klerk have been wrung from him by pressure and that South Africa must not be "let off the hook."

At one point, pilots flying weapons for Noriega to the U.S.-supported contra rebels in Nicaragua are said by witnesses to have flown on to the United States with a cargo of narcotics.

Noriega, who controlled Panama's security apparatus, was well positioned to engage in "the gray market arms business," according to the 1983 report of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on narcotics headed by Democratic Sen. John Kerry.

Even before the death of General Omar Torrijos, then Panama's ruling figure, in a mysterious 1981 plane crash, Noriega had the authority to issue certificates to legitimise the shipment of foreign arms to Panama.

"Once in Panama, Noriega would sell the weapons to whomever bid the most for them," the committee said, citing the testimony of Jose Blandon, a former Panamanian intelligence official and one-time Noriega adviser.

Blandon told the subcommittee that Noriega's earliest clients in the late 1970s included the Sandinista rebels in Nicaragua, who were successfully battling to oust that country's leader, Anastasio Somoza.

Noriega's associates purchased the weapons in Europe, brought them to Panama and then moved them into neighbouring Costa Rica for shipment to the Sandinistas.

Quoting Blandon, the report said that those buying guns for Noriega included Michael Harari, a retired agent of the Israeli intelligence service, Mossad.

Harari who travelled to Israel immediately after U.S. troops invaded Panama last month, has been described as one of Noriega's closest advisers, a description he rejects as false.

The Senate panel reported that although Noriega sold many weapons to the Sandinistas, "many more wound up in storage when the Sandinistas war ended in 1979."

Floyd Carlton, a former Noriega pilot, testified that the excess weapons were then "marketed by Panama to the rebels in El Salvador."

Carlton said he and his partner, Cesar Rodriguez, flew the weapons to El Salvador in 1980 using Panamanian military aircraft.

On one trip the plane Rodriguez was flying was damaged on takeoff and crashed when it attempted to land in El Salvador. Carlton, flying a second Panamanian plane on the same weapons-delivery mission, said he pulled Rodriguez from the aircraft, put him on his plane and flew to Panama.

"When Salvadorean officials discovered the wreckage of the

that although Noriega sold many weapons to the Sandinistas, "many more wound up in storage when the Sandinistas war ended in 1979."

Floyd Carlton, a former Noriega pilot, testified that the excess weapons were then "marketed by Panama to the rebels in El Salvador."

Carlton said he and his partner, Cesar Rodriguez, flew the weapons to El Salvador in 1980 using Panamanian military aircraft.

On one trip the plane Rodriguez was flying was damaged on takeoff and crashed when it attempted to land in El Salvador. Carlton, flying a second Panamanian plane on the same weapons-delivery mission, said he pulled Rodriguez from the aircraft, put him on his plane and flew to Panama.

"When Salvadorean officials discovered the wreckage of the

that although Noriega sold many weapons to the Sandinistas, "many more wound up in storage when the Sandinistas war ended in 1979."

Floyd Carlton, a former Noriega pilot, testified that the excess weapons were then "marketed by Panama to the rebels in El Salvador."

Global weather

(major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	Weather
AMSTERDAM	12	14	Cloudy
ATHENS	12	14	Cloudy
BANGKOK	25	31	Clear
Buenos Aires	24	25	Clear
Cairo	17	23	Cloudy
CHICAGO	27	32	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	22	26	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	15	21	Cloudy
GENOVA	12	17	Cloudy
HONG KONG	10	14	Cloudy
ISTANBUL	12	14	Cloudy
LONDON	11	12	Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	18	23	Clear
MADRID	11	14	Cloudy
MEXICO	18	21	Cloudy
MONTREAL	15	18	Cloudy
MOSCOW	24	25	Cloudy
NEW DELHI	19	23	Cloudy
NEW YORK	24	30	Cloudy